THE NONCONFORMIST.

"The dissidence of dissent and the protestantism of the protestant religion."

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Ecclesiastical Affairs.

THE SOUTHWARK ELECTION.

PUBLIC MEETING OF THE BRITISH ANTI-STATE-CHURCH ASSOCIATION.

A PUBLIC meeting of the members and friends of this Association took place at the Bridge House hotel, London-bridge, on Monday evening. The electors of Southwark were invited to attend, and the spacious assembly room was filled on the occasion by a respectable and enthusiastic audience.

Shortly after seven o'clock, APSLEY PELLATT, Esq., was called to the chair, and opened the business of the meeting by stating that the Anti-state-church Association had deemed it an opportune occasion—not having, since the formation of the society, held a meeting in that district—to give the inhabitants of the borough of Southwark an opportunity of hearing the principles on which the institution was founded, and obtain from them some sympathy for the sentiments which would be unfolded to them. Infidels and atheists had charged upon Christianity the excesses which had been committed in the name of religion, but which had been the result of bigotry and superstition, fostered by states in alliance with the church. This was the ground-work of the greatest tyranny and suffering to the human family. The speaker then proceeded to trace the history of priestcraft from the days of ancient Rome down to the reformation, showing its spirit of persecution, tyranny, and selfishness, always to have been the same. State alliance had ever been productive of similar evils; but it was proved by history that the system of compulsion had failed,—the consciences of men were not to be coerced by legislative enactments [cheers]. The voluntary principle was, however, essentially a system of peace, founded, as it was, upon a religion of peace. The worthy Chairman concluded an able address by reading the following letter from Dr Steane, which was received with great applause.

Camberwell, August 25, 1845.

MY DEAR SIR,—I regret exceedingly that another public duty will prevent my attendance at the meeting, this evening, at the Bridge-house Hotel. At the present crisis in the Borough, I think, it becomes the Dissenters to act with decision and unanimity. An opportunity so favourable for the exhibition of their principles and for carrying them into practical effect ought not to be lost. It is for them, on this occasion, to set an example to the great body of Protestant Nonconformists throughout the kingdom; and I cannot but hope, that if their measures are taken with courage as well as with good counsel, they will be taken with success. I am not, indeed, a resident in Southwark, but several of my congregration live there, and from my proximity I may, perhaps, be supposed to have some influence, though I have no vote. Let me request you to assure Mr Miall, and his committee, that whatever influence I can properly use shall be employed to promote his election.

As I would have attended the meeting had I been able, I can have no objection to your making any use of this letter there, which you may deem desirable.

I am, my dear Sir, yours most truly,

D'Arcy Irvine, Esq. EDWARD STEANE.

Dr F. A. Cox then came forward to move the first resolution, and was loudly cheered. He commenced by reading the resolution, which was as follows:—

"That all legislation by secular governments in affairs of religion, is an encroachment upon the rights of man, and an invasion of the prerogatives of God; and that the application by law of the resources of the State to the maintenance of any form or forms of religious worship and instruction, is contrary to reason, hostile to human liberty, and directly opposed to the word of God."

That it should be needful to bring forward such sentiments at this period, embodied in a formal resolution, might, indeed, be considered surprising. The cause of this, however, lay deeper than might be at first imagined, for it might be traced to the reformation itself. Important as it was—noble-minded as were the men who came forward to support it—yet it was only a reformation in part. It was a successful attack upon the Roman hierarchy, but it was not an attack upon the principle on which that and all other hierarchies were founded, and which must be removed in order to the prevalence and freedom of Christianity. That reformation was a lopping off of the branches; but it did not descend with the axe to the root of the tree [cheers]. This was their vocation in the present age; there must be a second reformation—a reformed reformation [cheers]. The roots of the evil had not been torn up, and many things were supported in connexion with Christianity which were inconsistent with the great charter of their religious liberties—the Bible [cheers]. To call in the aid of legislation was to suppose religion weak, and in want of support, not from the arm of Omnipotent power, but from that of human weakness [hear, hear]. If religion were strong, they would say to human governments, Leave it alone—if weak, why try to support it? Their religion, however, had reared its head above all the ecclesiastical despotism of the world, and was now marching forward over the ashes of all its persecutors to a certain and universal diffusion [cheers]. To call in the aid of the State to support religion was to suppose the people too weak to exercise the right of private judgment; but, when the God of heaven had given him reason to choose for himself, he was not willing—and a conscience within his own bosom, to be responsible to Him alone—he was not willing, he said, for any human authority to dictate his religion [cheers]. [Two persons in the body of the meeting who had been hissing and making other discordant noises, were here thrust forward to the front of the platform, and made to stand before the whole assembly. One of them presented the appearance of a draper's apprentice, and was the least mischievous of the two. The other, a vacant-looking nondescript, endeavoured to brave the awkwardness of his position by significant gestures to his comrade, when he thought fit to disapprove of the sentiments of the speakers, and occasionally broke out into some senseless observation. They were both objects of great amusement to the meeting, and must have felt bitterly mortified at the novel mode in which they were dealt with, as disturbers of the harmony of the evening. The method is certainly a much better one, than an attempt to "turn out" such refractory visitors.] The speaker, at the request of the meeting, here ascended the table, and proceeded to say that religion was a vital principle within the mind of man; could the sword of the magistrate establish it, and form the judgment? could it convince the reason? They were called political Dissenters, and his reply was, that they were compelled to be politicians. Was not the church formed upon the principle of politics? Was it not founded on the parchments of parliament? If they wished to disentangle Dissenters from ecclesiastical politics, it was easy to do it; let them separate the church from the state [cheers]. Their opposition was to a political church; give them a Christian church, a New Testament church, and there would be an end of the Anti-state-church Association [cheers]. He stood there as a minister of the gospel, and he was not out of place when endeavouring to remove everything which obstructed its progress, and final triumph [cheers]. Let the people be united and send right men to parliament—not men who would sleep on the benches—not men who would dream for hours over a luxurious table, and then go to vote according to the dictates of a minister [hear, hear]; not men who would get into parliament by swearing to anything, and then forget their constituents and their oaths [loud cheers]. Some persons objected to pledges, but he liked to see a candidate full of pledges—pledged to the public good by his character, by his avowed and well-known principles, by his integrity, by his actions, as well as his words [cheers]. He liked to see a man pledged by every good principle that could be imparted to human nature, and controlling all by piety to God, which alone could be the source of real good-will to man, and of true patriotism to his country [loud cheers]. He might be called political. It was true he had a friend who had started for a borough somewhere about the metropolis ["Hear," and a laugh]; and he knew him to be of the principles which he had described [cheers]. He knew him to be sound-hearted, talented, but, above all, truly pious, and honestly determined to carry out his principles, which was not the case with every pretender in these degenerate days [loud cheers, amidst which the speaker resumed his seat].

JOSIAH CONDER, Esq., in seconding the resolution, said the Association felt bound, at such a time as the present, to take all the means in their power of instructing the constituency of every portion of the empire as to their duties as Christians and Britons. The observation which had been made with reference to the Anti-corn-law League, might now be applied to the British Anti-state-church Association, namely, that it was "a great fact" [cheers]. The time was come when no one who felt the importance of religious liberty ought to entrust the representation of his opinions, in parliament, to any man who was not prepared to maintain those principles which they held dear, as connected with the interests of religion, and the security of religious liberty.

Mr JOHN BURNET, Independent minister, of Camberwell, was anxious, first of all, to assure the meeting that he wished every man to provide for his own religion: that was common honesty. He wished, secondly, that no man should be compelled to provide for his neighbour's religion: that was only common honesty. He wished also, for the purpose of carrying out this great object, that every man should be at liberty to vote for any candidate he pleased: this surely was nothing more than common honesty [hear, hear]. He wished, further, that every individual should feel an interest in the men who occupied the high places of the earth, so that they might really be the representatives of the community of which they formed a part and of which they were professedly the representatives in the legislature. Many would say, bring up "the mob" with the view that they are to influence the legislature of the empire, and the consequences would be most disastrous. Why, what would the legislature do if "the mob" were to die? Where would they get the many millions they had to vote? Where would they get the manufacturing towns and articles about which they were legislating so much [cheers and laughter]? He wondered where they would find ground to get up a tariff if they had not the mob. He should like to see them assemble in the house built by themselves—for, putting aside the mob, they must all turn Robinson Crusoes. It might be said, if persons were brought to the front ranks of society, they would not know how to behave themselves. There was a plain proof to the contrary. They had some individuals that evening who were a little troublesome at first, and having put them to the front, their good conduct was almost perfect [much laughter]. That was the way to improve the mob [cheers]. He would elevate them—he would lift them up [loud cheers]. The great people of society had got enough to admire them—they admired and supported one another. Now he always liked, on that very account, to support the mob, just because they had so few to sustain them [cheers]. He liked to see them put in the best of all positions for being upheld—namely, in the position in which they could sustain themselves [loud cheers]. But the resolution reminded him that the members of parliament, on a recent occasion, took such a course as to show that they were not the representatives of the people. Some of them would say, and had said, that three-fourths of the petitioners who sent in petitions to parliament were Dissenters, and that was the reason why they did not mind them. Were they really going to tell Dissenters, that if petitions should be signed with reference to any public measure, by tens of thousands or millions, they were not to be attended to, because they were Dissenters? Let it come out, if this was really their opinion [cheers]. It would remind one of the great Dr Johnson—great in many respects, but not very great in religious liberality, for he hated Dissenters. He was once walking in a garden with one of the heads of the university of Oxford, and found this gentleman taking up slugs and throwing them into his neighbour's garden. The Dr said, "That is ungenerous;" his friend, however, replied, "Oh, he is only a Dissenter:" the good Doctor then observed, "Oh, then, toss away" [laughter]. Now that is the way he supposed the members of parliament meant to do with Dissenters [cheers]. Now, what course were they to adopt? Were they to take no notice of such treatment? if so, they would deserve more of it ["Hear, hear," and cheers]. But it might be asked, what had the legislature done to cause the determination to reflect so much upon them? And here, he would take both political parties, and say, that Dissenters were equally dissatisfied with them with reference to the Maynooth grant [cheers]. It might be asked, what offence these two parties had committed. He answered, that they had endowed a religious institution for ever, so far as an act of parliament could reach immortality ["Hear, hear, hear"]. Was it because it was a Roman Catholic institution that he objected to it? No! [cheers]. To the gentlemen of the House of Commons—those who sneered at the Dissenters out

of doors for their bigotry, and called them fanatics—to them he would return such charges, and ask them for amendment, for they were now utterly false [cheers]. If they had proposed to endow a Dissenting college, he should have objected to it as strongly as he did to Maynooth [loud cheers]. He only objected to the endowment of Maynooth because it was an endowment of his neighbour's religion at his expense—it was a forcible taking money from his pocket, to keep up the religion of his neighbour, who had no conscience to keep up his religion himself—it was an attempt to degrade his neighbour and rob him [loud cheers]. It was an endeavour to set up a religious institution at the expense of an unwilling people. There was nothing fanatical in taking such a position. These were the reasons of plain common-sense [cheers]. Some persons proposed to endow the College of Maynooth out of the property of the established church. If that property belonged to the established church, what right had they to take it? and, if it was the property of the nation, what right had the church to possess it? [hear, hear.] After tracing the owner of the property, what right had any other person to it? If the owner were the church, it ought to be touched only by her; but, if it belonged to the nation, then the nation only had a right to interfere with it [cheers]. Maynooth was only a fraction of the nation, and why should the Legislature put its hand into the pocket of the nation to maintain this fraction of it. Sir Robert Peel might do so, because he found himself in power, without having first stated that he was going to commit this spoliation—if he had done so, that never would have been done [cheers]. But supposing they were to urge this as Mr Ward did in the House of Commons—did he not know that he could not carry his motion? He voted for the grant to Maynooth, and tried to swim out of the inconsistency by proposing that it should be made out of the property of the established church. He might as well have proposed that the property of the man in the moon should go towards it [cheers and laughter]. But there were other gentlemen who said they were not going to endow Maynooth, but the Catholic clergy at large. If they were going to saddle them with £400,000 a-year—for little less would be sufficient—in addition to what they paid already—if they said they would do this—if Lord Wharncliffe, when he admitted they were not going to do it now, said the government would keep their eyes open to the state of public opinion, in order that they might, at last, come down with such a measure as this—if this warning voice had been heard in one house, and a similar announcement had been made in the other, it was high time that they should be alive to the necessity of protecting their own pockets, and maintaining the principles of religious freedom [loud cheers]. They knew what was proposed to be done by these gentlemen; and never let them be deceived by the statement, that the money would be taken out of the revenues of the church. They could not get it. They had consented to give this money to Maynooth, to preserve the integrity of the established church [great applause]. Every statesman knew that; and if he was so ignorant as not to know it, he was not fit to be their representative [cheers]. But if he was to look further at the proceedings of the gentlemen of the House of Commons connected with this Maynooth grant he might be reminded that they had always spoken of it as a grant; and not as an endowment. A grant was a thing that might be made for the present, but not for any future time; that was the condition of the first grant, but was a grant made from time to time to be put on the same ground as a settled endowment by an act of parliament [hear, hear]? Maynooth was now endowed, and was not the object of a grant; it was now educating its students from the national purse; and, when they were educated, its ministers would be supported in the same way [hear]. But, if it should be said that this endowment did not infringe upon religious liberty, he would ask—What would be an infringement of it? He was to be compelled to support any religion when the state chose to patronise it, and pauperise its ministers, and yet to be told that his religious freedom was not infringed [cheers]. The man who took the pay of the state was a pauper, and had lost his standing in society as an honourable man [renewed cheers]. But they ought to find a remedy for this evil, and it was to be found only in the separation of church and state [cheers]. That union was the corrupter of their statesmen. Would not the House of Commons breathe more freely if religious legislation were taken out of its hands? It would be a relief to the Crown, and to the Houses of Lords and Commons, as far as they were statesmen and politicians. The only thing that would make them feel it, would be the loss of the places, and the patronage, and the money [cheers and laughter], and that would be a corrupt reason; and as nothing but corrupt reasons remained for maintaining it, why not come forward boldly and dissolve it [cheers]? Many would say, "You are against our bishop, and prayer books, and articles." No, they knew he was not—he was only against their mode of supporting them [cheers]. They might have their bishops, with their carriages and palaces, if they liked; Dissenters said nothing against their church, but against the mode of supporting it [renewed cheers]. Under those circumstances, then, let them look to the men whom they were to send to parliament, and then there was no danger of their cause. If they never could be free until the union between the church and state was dissolved, let them select men who would seek to dissolve it, and not deal in vague generalities, and promises that they would give such and such subjects a fair and full consideration [cheers]. Let them never believe the man who told them that he would consider the subject. If he came before them as a statesman, he ought to know those things, and not have to consider them [renewed cheers]. He should say to him, If you have not considered a subject that has been discussed and controverted again and again for hundreds of years—if you have not considered a subject which has been debated night after night in our own legislature,—become of the deepest interest throughout the length and breadth of the land; and, notwithstanding all this, professed to be a legislator, then let me tell you that you have let out an incident that tells me you have mistaken your trade [cheers, and much laughter]. He would say to such a man, You have not dealt with us fairly—you know what you will do [loud cheers]. Let them, then, take men who would urge the separation of the church and state upon the legislature [cheers]. The question might for a time be disregarded in the House of Commons, but it would work its way up in the House, just in proportion as it did so out of doors, and if one general election did not teach a sufficient lesson, another and another would [cheers]. If they did not live to see the freedom for which they sighed, they would leave it to the generation which should follow, and who would bless the ashes of those whose indomitable perseverance and firmness of purpose, whose undying love of religious liberty, had led to the ultimate results in which it had triumphed [loud applause, which continued for a considerable time]. Mr Burnet concluded by moving the following resolution:—

"That the recent discussions in parliament on the Maynooth Endowment bill, have clearly elicited the fact, that religious liberty is exposed to serious peril, from the views prevalent amongst the two great political parties of our country; and it is, therefore, incumbent on the Protestant Dissenters of the empire to seek the return to the House of Commons, of men reared in their midst, conversant with their principles, and both able and willing to advocate them in the legislature."

MR WILLIAM FORSTER, of Highgate, Independent minister, seconded the resolution. The time had arrived when the Dissenters must have "a local habitation and a name," and teach the legislature the nature and justice of their demands; and, in order to do this, they must send to parliament men who were calculated to give such lessons to the legislature. Sir Robert Peel did not wish the borough of Southwark to send a Tory to parliament—he knew what that would mean—and he would rather see a Whig-Radical who supported the endowment of Maynooth elected as their representative [hear, hear]. Such a selection would justify the contempt with which he had treated the Dissenters [hear, hear]. It was said that, by supporting Mr Miall, they would divide the Liberal interest, and let a Tory in. If such was the result, would the great interests of the empire come to nought? Would it not rather strike terror into the Peel cabinet when they saw that the Dissenters were throwing aside their political feelings because their religious rights had been assailed [cheers]. Mr Miall was not the nominee of the Association, who had never been consulted as to his coming forward. He had been invited by the electors themselves—he was their candidate. But, as they had invited him, the Anti-state-church Association, confiding in his integrity and wisdom—in the rectitude of his principles and his mind—resolved that they would do their utmost to enable the electors to send him to parliament as their representative [cheers]. They did not sustain him in the character of a politician—for some members of the Association did not go the length of supporting his views upon the extension of the suffrage—but, in a crisis like the present, when religious liberty was being tampered with and assailed by clumsy and unjust legislation, if they had a thousand votes they would give them all to Mr Miall [loud cheers]. State necessity—the relations between France, America, and this country—and the importance, in such a crisis, of tranquillising Ireland—would be made the plea for endowing the Roman Catholic clergy, and then politicians so undecided on the subject as Sir William Molesworth would not scruple to support the ministry [hear, hear]. It, therefore, behoved them to make a resolute stand, and send to parliament a representative who was the determined opponent of the endowment of religion by the state, and upon whose conduct they could confidently rely [cheers, and cries of "We will"].

DR THOMAS PRICE said: The peroration of the discourse had been assigned to him, and he confessed that he shrunk from it when he bore in mind the character of the discourse itself, and the ability with which the matters submitted to their attention had been set forth and enforced. He felt, under these circumstances, that he could have wished some other and higher order of mind should have been present to enforce the practical conclusion to which his resolution painted. That resolution was as follows:—

"That the qualifications of Mr Miall, as the indefatigable advocate of entire religious freedom, preeminently fit him to represent the principles and views of the Protestant Dissenters of the empire; and that this meeting, therefore, having regard, exclusively, to the ecclesiastical principles avowed in his printed address, most urgently calls upon the Dissenting electors of Southwark to give him their united and cordial support."

That resolution kept in view the exclusively ecclesiastical character of the bodywhich had convened that meeting. Whatever opinions might be entertained by the gentlemen composing that body, on the various questions of general politics, they were one only on the ecclesiastical ground, and on that ground alone they then appeared before them. As was known to many persons present, his own views would go fully and cordially to the full extent of the political sentiments of his friend Mr Miall [loud cheers]. As an individual, he could have no hesitation in avowing himself an advocate, not only of freedom of religion, but of freedom of legislation in those class interests which had hitherto led it astray. The resolution declared that, on account of Mr Miall's ecclesiastical views, he was deemed preeminently qualified to represent the sentiments of the great Nonconformist body in the House of Commons. There was no man in the three kingdoms—he spoke it advisedly—during the period he had been before the public, who had rendered to religious liberty more important and consistent services [cheers]. There was no man who had brought to the consideration of the topics involved in that question, a profounder intellect, a deeper sympathy, a more innate conviction that with it were bound up the interests of society and the vindication of the Church of Christ [loud cheers]. He had laboured assiduously, and, at first, amid many discouragements; certainly without those rewards which were accustomed to sweeten the labours of many public men [hear]. And he appeared before them simply in that light, as one who had consistently and ably expounded and enforced the principles of religious liberty—who had dragged forth those principles, not so much from the unbelief of the men whom they had addressed, as from the indifference and supineness with which their enforcement was acknowledged: for while they held those principles—whilst they were cradled in them—it had not been till comparatively recently, that they had felt the solemn and imperative necessity laid upon them for their inworking into the public mind. They had felt they were matters pertaining to themselves, which they were to hold individually, and upon which in their religious associations they might act; but they did not seek to plant them before the intellect of the nation, and represent them in such an attitude as should command the homage of the public mind, and ultimately secure for them a recognition in the statute book [hear, hear, hear]. To that they had pledged themselves, and, by God's help, to that their labours should tend, whether in health, in sickness, or in death [cheers]. They had an important case now furnished, in which it was possible for them to give some practical proof of the value which they set on those principles [cheers]. Mr Miall was said, on one side, to be an able representative, but he was opposed by a gentleman of whom he would speak with respect. He had, however, to deal with them on the question of religious liberty, and the matter between them stood thus: Sir W. Molesworth, notwithstanding his knowledge of the interest taken in the Maynooth question by the electors of Southwark, preserved in his address an absolute and unbroken silence, which was equivalent to an acknowledgment that his views did not accord with those of a majority of the electors. But the case did not rest there. Sir Wm Molesworth, at a meeting in that room, distinctly stated, honestly and without reserve—and so far as the mere honesty was concerned, he respected him for the fact—he stated that, had he been in the House of Commons at the time the Maynooth bill was before the legislature, he should have voted with his party, saying he regarded it as an educational measure. It was, forsooth, not an ecclesiastical, but an educational measure, and therefore to support it involved no violation of the voluntary principle [laughter]. An educational measure! If ever there was an ecclesiastical measure submitted to parliament, it was this; and he felt little respect for the intellect or the heart of the man who could put forth such a plea [loud cheers]. He knew it had been used by others whom, on other grounds, he would willingly support. But when he saw clear-minded men affirm that such a measure for the education of the religious teachers of a particular body—when he heard them affirm that their vote for such a bill was justified, because it was not an ecclesiastical but educational measure—he was compelled to charge them either with feebleness of intellect or dishonesty of purpose [much applause]. But further, they were told by Sir William Molesworth that this grant ought not to have been given out of the pockets of the British people, but out of the revenues of the Irish church; and yet at the same time he affirmed, whilst averring that, that, had he been in the House of Commons, he would have given it his support [cheers and laughter]. And what if it had been taken out of the revenues of the Protestant church of Ireland? What mattered it to him whether a pickpocket relieved him from the contents of this pocket or of that [cheers and laughter]—if the money were taken the injury would be equally done. A clergyman, second to none in the establishment, the Hon. Baptist Noel, eminent amongst his brethren, admitted the fairness of considering the property of the Irish church as national property, and subject therefore to the control of the legislature. But if it was not, what business had the Protestant church with it? The Episcopal body ought to be the last to aver that it was not national property; let them deny that it was not, and their title to it was gone, for they received it as taken from another body, and they received it, too, by an act of the legislature [much applause]. Were he a churchman, he would never moot the question; he would never challenge, for one instant, the propriety and rectitude of such an averment as that; he would let it pass from the national eye as soon as he could, for his innate sense of what was honest as well as fair would compel him to admit its force [cheers]. But it was not only because Sir W. Molesworth admitted that he would have supported the Maynooth bill, he affirmed also that he would not pledge himself not to vote against the endowment of the Roman Catholic clergy [cries of "Shame"]; he did not know that he should do so; he scarcely went so far, however, as to say that he did not think he

should do so, but asserted for himself the right to retain his own free course of action, when such a measure was submitted to the legislature. Now, were they prepared to return to parliament a man who honestly told them this? [cries of "No, no."] These were the views of Sir W. Molesworth; but in Mr Miall they had a candidate who averred, without hesitancy, that he objected to the existing alliance between the church and the state, and would labour destroy it. They would not take from Episcopalians the rights which they possessed; let them have the form of church polity they preferred, and the officers they chose, but let them support those officers themselves. He affirmed, if returned as their representative, that he would labour to effect the separation of the unholy alliance between the church and the state, as the great end of his political life. [The nondescript we before alluded to, here exclaimed, "Destroy *my* church?"] Destroy the church of the living God—that church, the outlines of which are developed so clearly in the inspired word as being built upon a rock, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it [great applause]! It was not the poor fragile, perishable thing which such an observation would represent it to be [cheers]. Was it come to this, that the representatives of any nation had the power to destroy any church? Then let them do so, for that which originated with political men, and was supported by political influence, could be associated only with those ends which were akin to the character and spirit of such men [loud cheers]. But they were met by representations which had been made by a friend of his own—one whom, on many accounts, he held in high and deserved esteem. He found in the papers of Saturday the report of a speech of his friend Mr Aldis [marks of disapprobation, and cries of "Shame"]. He had sent to that gentleman, as an honest man, asking only a clear stage and no favour—he had sent to tell him that he should refer to the subject that evening [cheers]—and he was staying in that very neighbourhood, within a quarter of a mile of the place in which they were assembled; and he told him, that if he would come there he should have an opportunity, as free as himself, of addressing the meeting [cheers]. What was it that was alleged? Why, that although he was an opponent of the Maynooth bill, he intended to vote for Sir W. Molesworth, who would have supported it, and who would not pledge himself not to vote for the endowment of the Catholic clergy [cries of "Shame!"]. Oh "tell it not in Gath—mention it not in the streets of Askelon," that a man—one of themselves, deservedly esteemed and loved—should, by some obliquity of intellect [the remainder of the sentence was lost in a thunder of applause]. But it was affirmed, as the ground of doing this, that the cause of Mr Miall was hopeless. Mr Aldis said that Mr Miall's views were his views—that he most nearly represented his sentiments, and, if he thought there was any chance of returning him, he would vote for him. Was success, then, to be the rule of their duty? [loud cheers.] Was there not something before and above all this—the honest and manly, the English and Christian exhibition of their principles? [cheers.] But further, how his friend could have publicly made such a statement without having, in the first place, inquired of some member of Mr Miall's committee whether his cause was so hopeless or not, he could not tell [hear, hear]. It was due from a public man—it was due especially from a Dissenter—it was pre-eminently due from a Dissenting minister [much cheering], that he should not thus have inflicted a blow at the cause of their friend Mr Miall, and upon the cause of religious liberty, without having informed himself of those facts [hear, hear]. Now, he affirmed that there was no such hopelessness [much cheering]. Despair, in Southwark, of the election of a man because he took, explicitly and firmly, the anti-state-church principle! Oh, no [loud cheers], he would not insult the men of Southwark thus. They intended to return such a man to Parliament, and have him there as the exponent of their views [cheers]. It was not a vote in the House of Commons simply which was at stake—he cared not comparatively for a dozen votes. What difference would they make in the decision of that House? But he did care for one clear and illumined spirit, standing up in the midst of the dark masses there [loud cheers]—he did care that they should have in the Legislature a man reared in their midst, thoroughly conversant with their principles, and devoted, body, soul, and strength, to their diffusion [loud cheers]. He did care that the gentlemen of the press, through the medium of the daily and weekly journals, should give currency to those expositions of the principles of Nonconformists which such a man would furnish [hear, hear]. He did care that the ministers of the day—that the two great political parties and factions of the land should learn what they (the Nonconformists) were, and what they meant, and should thus be driven away from those scare-crows by which they had permitted themselves to be alarmed [hear, and laughter]. They need do something, in order to testify the sincerity of their past professions, and there they were to do it. As yet, the mere politicians of the country had had no faith in them, and it was not to be wondered at, for they had done nothing to show it; but they would now learn that they adhered to their principles, and were determined to carry them out [cheers]. By sending to the legislature Anti-state-church men, they would send them just such a response as they deserved for the insolent message of defiance which they had given them [loud cheers]. He rejoiced in these bright and auspicious signs of the times. They all remembered when it was heresy to affirm voluntary principles; when the man who had the temerity to do so, would have been decried and borne down even by his fellows; but, blessed be God, they were moving on; the cloud that was no bigger than a man's hand, was spreading itself over the heavens, and it would speedily cover them [loud cheers]. Now that the religious element had been drawn forth, and was working itself into the hearts of a great people—now that the example of their great forefathers — their Elliots, and Hampdens, and Pyms, was being emulated—now that they saw the rainbow of promise, on which the eye loved to dwell, and which was the harbinger of a better and brighter era than Britain had ever known—now it was indeed time that their public men should know that the religious element was thus mightily at work [great applause]. They were ignorant of its nature, and therefore despised it. The overgrown power of the aristocracy had withered the spirits and depressed the energies of the English nation; but there was now eliciting and coming forth into the arena, an element which could struggle with that gigantic force, and before which, the church would be compelled to relinquish her ill-gotten power [long-con-cheers].

Mr G. Rose, Independent minister (who was introduced as an elector of the borough), came forward to second the resolution, and said, that, as the walls of the borough had been placarded with a resolution, supported by Mr Aldis, to the effect that an honourable baronet was eminently qualified to represent them, he (Mr Rose) had great satisfaction in seconding the resolution which had just been so ably moved, and which truly stated that Mr Miall, as the advocate of religious freedom, was pre-eminently qualified to represent the principles and views of the Protestant Dissenters of the empire [loud cheers]. They had been branded as political Dissenters [hear]; it had, however, become now a religious question. The question of negro emancipation toiled and struggled for many years, and it was not until the religious feelings of the empire were aroused—it was not until it became a religious question that it was ultimately carried by the British parliament. And now they had come forward for ecclesiastical emancipation. They had unfurled that standard [cheers, mingled with a few hisses]. If gentlemen hissed at this, he would say, in the words of one of their friends whom they professed to admire—Mr O'Connell—"If we have trodden on the tail of the serpent of bigotry, then let it hiss on" [immense cheering]. Let it hiss—they would maintain their principles without timidity; they would stand before the constituency of the borough of Southwark, and of the empire at large, being determined to abide by them to the last, and struggle until death for the great and important principle of ecclesiastical emancipation [tremendous cheering]. There were gentlemen on that platform who went the whole length with Mr Miall in his political principles, and he believed that the supporter of the resolution, with which their walls had been placarded, went that length too [hear, hear]. He must not conceal the fact, however, that there were many persons in the borough, and perhaps in every town in the empire, who did not agree with him in his political views, but who would go the whole length of his ecclesiastical opinions. It was almost impossible to find a candidate whose sentiments would exactly accord with every tittle of their creed; but on the question of Maynooth, as Protestant Dissenters, they all sympathised in the religious view of that question; and he therefore urged them to support Mr Miall, in whom they could place the most implicit confidence [cheers]. Mr Pilcher now termed himself a Liberal, and called upon all men, Dissenters and Churchmen, of all creeds and no creeds [laughter], to support him. There was a vulgar proverb which they heard in the streets, and perhaps it was not fit for ears polite, "Don't you wish you may get it?" [cheers]. Dissenters had been gulled too long; they must now send a man to parliament who would be "a light to shine upon their darkness" [cheers]. He was not without hope that their friend Mr Aldis would, after all, be a true man when the day of trial came, as his only ground of supporting Sir Wm Molesworth was his apprehension that the return of Mr Miall would be impracticable. He hoped they should show him, on the first day of the election, that Mr Miall's return was not only not impracticable, but almost certain [cheers]; and so they should have a right to call upon him to stand forth, and abide by his own principles. He would only add, that the support which Mr Aldis had given to the resolution which had been posted about the borough, had had a contrary effect to that which had been intended. He (Mr Rose) had since been amongst men who were disposed to be very quiet, but who were now turning round, and exerting themselves actively. When they could unite together the earnest men, or, as the *Times* called them, the "rigid Dissenters," he thought both the other candidates would look with dismay on the front which they should present. He, like Mr Aldis, had been visited by certain honourable gentlemen, who represented the impolicy of dividing the Liberal interest, and solicited him to follow in the wake of his friend; but he was determined to nail his colours to the mast, and never desert the cause of religious freedom [cheers]. They were not the men to flinch [renewed cheers]. If they lost the election, they should teach a great and important lesson to the ministry, and their Whig advocates, as well as to the constituencies of the empire at large [loud cheers].

J. M. Webb, Esq., proposed the thanks of the meeting to the chairman for his conduct in the chair. The motion, having been seconded, was put and agreed to (as were all the previous resolutions), the two individuals we have before alluded to being the only dissentients. The chairman returned thanks, and the meeting separated about ten o'clock.

BANKRUPTCY OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL COMMISSION.

Of all the cases of the unblushing mal-appropriation of ecclesiastical funds which ever came under our notice, we think that of the Ecclesiastical Commission is the grossest. The Bishop of London conducts this body, or did so before its bankruptcy; and, under his lordship's direction, £2,000,000 or £3,000,000 have been recklessly squandered and jobbed away in the dioceses of the committee. The funds granted to the church by the state, and collected from pious dowagers, were, it has always been asserted, to be appropriated for the erection of churches in destitute localities. Instead of this, "the bishops (the *Times* informs us) have taken them for the building of episcopal palaces. They have grasped tens of thousands for their ecclesiastical pomp and pride, whilst they have kept back a few paltry hundreds, which would have afforded unspeakable comfort and happiness to whole parishes of the luckless and disregarded poor."

Nearly £30,000 have just been paid for a palace for the Bishop of Rochester in Essex. A handsome premium on non-residence! £16,000 was paid for building the Bishop of Ripon's palace, besides a large sum for the purpose of the land. The Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol has since been new housed at the expense of the disappointed churches. The Bishop of Lincoln has also been lately new seated; and, in a way perfectly consistent with the business-like habits of the commission: it appears, that through some most strange neglect, a profit of not less than £15,000 or £16,000 was made by some parties concerned in this purchase. Now, when it is considered that all the deaneries and stalls in the kingdom, besides other church property, are in the course of being mulcted to provide funds for this commission, is it not too bad that there should be no other result than waste and misapplication? With regard to the churches which have been endowed, much partiality is said to have been shown; in some dioceses spiritual wants have been altogether rejected, while in others they have been profusely supplied." There was, until lately, a society whose object it was to arrest and bring to justice all begging impostors: have they ceased to exist, and pensioned their lynx-eyed officers? or are all mendicants in the clerical garb to be allowed henceforth to prey upon the public in this *ad libitum* style? We should have thought that at any rate some of the ring-leaders of this notorious gang would have before this made their appearance in one of our police offices.

In conclusion, it may be as well to state that these episcopal state paupers, who cannot, in their excess of penury, find means to house themselves, receive the following incomes:—Rochester, £3,794; Ripon, £4,123; Gloucester, £3,989; Lincoln, £4,639.

The Wesleyans and the Church.—At the sitting of Conference, on the 15th inst., at Leeds, a conversation arose on the perils of the English universities. Several ministers observed, that whenever a Wesleyan youth was sent to Oxford or Cambridge, to complete his education, he became an alien to Methodism. "It holds," said a distinguished preacher, "with almost the regularity of a law, that however much the parents might regret it, their son, if sent to the university, came out of it a High Church-of-England man." His own son, he added, wished to go, but he could not let him, (Applause.) It appeared, further, that the pupils at the Sheffield Proprietary School, instead of being taken to a Wesleyan chapel on the Sunday, were now kept at home and attended service in the college-chapel, the minister officiating in a gown and bands; and instance, were named in which the young men, when among their friends, at holiday-times, would not go to chapel, preferring the services of the parish-church. The rules of the Sheffield institution, it seems, require that the head-master shall be an Oxford or Cambridge graduate.—On the 16th inst., a committee was appointed, on the motion of Dr Bunting, to arrange a form of marriage-service for Wesleyan societies. A resolution was passed, to the effect, that no candidate for the ministry, having a matrimonial engagement (!), should be admitted as a student into the Theological Institution. The Conference separated on Friday, August 15th. The Conference of 1846 will be held in Bristol. A correspondent of the *Leeds Intelligencer*, calling himself a "No-Puseyite Methodist," says:—"Your account of the proceedings of the Wesleyan Conference announces the fact that the liturgy was read very devotionally by the Rev. Dr Jackson, that the *Venite* and *Te Deum* were chanted by the choir and congregation, and that the ordination service was also used. Now, sir, if that you have stated be true, I am afraid I must, with many others, leave the connexion. For years we have laboured to keep out of our chapels written forms of prayer. I consider the Conference has sanctioned downright Puseyism."

Taking Care of the Flock.—More than three months ago, upwards of a hundred of the principal inhabitants of Wantage, Berks, addressed a respectful memorial to the Bishop of Oxford, setting forth, that a non-resident pluralist, who draws upwards of £700 a year from the parish, gives a laborious curate only £150 per annum, though this is the lowest sum fixed by law as the stipend for a curate where the population is only 1,000 souls; whereas, at Wantage the population is three times that number. This memorial, so honourable to the parishioners, has not received even the scanty courtesy of an acknowledgment from the Bishop!—*Oxford Chronicle.*—[The living is held by the Dean of Windsor, of proverbial liberality.]

of doors for their bigotry, and called them fanatics—to them he would return such charges, and ask them for amendment, for they were now utterly false [cheers]. If they had proposed to endow a Dissenting college, he should have objected to it as strongly as he did to Maynooth [loud cheers]. He only objected to the endowment of Maynooth because it was an endowment of his neighbour's religion at his expense—it was a forcible taking money from his pocket, to keep up the religion of his neighbour, who had no conscience to keep up his religion himself—it was an attempt to degrade his neighbour and rob him [loud cheers]. It was an endeavour to set up a religious institution at the expense of an unwilling people. There was nothing fanatical in taking such a position. These were the reasons of plain common-sense [cheers]. Some persons proposed to endow the College of Maynooth out of the property of the established church. If that property belonged to the established church, what right had they to take it? and, if it was the property of the nation, what right had the church to possess it? [hear, hear.] After tracing the owner of the property, what right had any other person to it? If the owner were the church, it ought to be touched only by her; but, if it belonged to the nation, then the nation only had a right to interfere with it [cheers]. Maynooth was only a fraction of the nation, and why should the Legislature put its hand into the pocket of the nation to maintain this fraction of it. Sir Robert Peel might do so, because he found himself in power, without having first stated that he was going to commit this spoliation—if he had done so, that never would have been done [cheers]. But supposing they were to urge this as Mr Ward did in the House of Commons—did he not know that he could not carry his motion? He voted for the grant to Maynooth, and tried to swim out of the inconsistency by proposing that it should be made out of the property of the established church. He might as well have proposed that the property of the man in the moon should go towards it [cheers and laughter]. But there were other gentlemen who said they were not going to endow Maynooth, but the Catholic clergy at large. If they were going to saddle them with £400,000 a-year—for little less would be sufficient—in addition to what they paid already—if they said they would do this—if Lord Wharncliffe, when he admitted they were not going to do it now, said the government would keep their eyes open to the state of public opinion, in order that they might, at last, come down with such a measure as this—if this warning voice had been heard in one house, and a similar announcement had been made in the other, it was high time that they should be alive to the necessity of protecting their own pockets, and maintaining the principles of religious freedom [loud cheers]. They knew what was proposed to be done by these gentlemen; and never let them be deceived by the statement, that the money would be taken out of the revenues of the church. They could not get it. They had consented to give this money to Maynooth, to preserve the integrity of the established church [great applause]. Every statesman knew that; and if he was so ignorant as not to know it, he was not fit to be their representative [cheers]. But if he was to look further at the proceedings of the gentlemen of the House of Commons connected with this Maynooth grant he might be reminded that they had always spoken of it as a grant; and not as an endowment. A grant was a thing that might be made for the present, but not for any future time; that was the condition of the first grant, but was a grant made from time to time to be put on the same ground as a settled endowment by an act of parliament [hear, hear]? Maynooth was now endowed, and was not the object of a grant; it was now educating its students from the national purse; and, when they were educated, its ministers would be supported in the same way [hear]. But, if it should be said that this endowment did not infringe upon religious liberty, he would ask—What would be an infringement of it? He was to be compelled to support any religion when the state chose to patronise it, and pauperise its ministers, and yet to be told that his religious freedom was not infringed [cheers]. The man who took the pay of the state was a pauper, and had lost his standing in society as an honourable man [renewed cheers]. But they ought to find a remedy for this evil, and it was to be found only in the separation of church and state [cheers]. That union was the corrupter of their statesmen. Would not the House of Commons breathe more freely if religious legislation were taken out of its hands? It would be a relief to the Crown, and to the Houses of Lords and Commons, as far as they were statesmen and politicians. The only thing that would make them feel it, would be the loss of the places, and the patronage, and the money [cheers and laughter], and that would be a corrupt reason; and as nothing but corrupt reasons remained for maintaining it, why not come forward boldly and dissolve it [cheers]? Many would say, "You are against our bishop, and prayer books, and articles." No, they knew he was not—he was only against their mode of supporting them [cheers]. They might have their bishops, with their carriages and palaces, if they liked; Dissenters said nothing against their church, but against the mode of supporting it [renewed cheers]. Under those circumstances, then, let them look to the men whom they were to send to parliament, and then there was no danger of their cause. If they never could be free until the union between the church and state was dissolved, let them select men who would seek to dissolve it, and not deal in vague generalities and promises that they would give such and such subjects a fair and full consideration [cheers]. Let them never believe the man who told them that he would consider the subject. If he came before them as a statesman, he ought to know those things, and not have to consider them [renewed cheers]. He should say to him, If you have not considered a subject that has been discussed and controverted again and again for hundreds of years—if you have not considered a subject which has been debated night after night in our own legislature,—become of the deepest interest throughout the length and breadth of the land; and, notwithstanding all this, professed to be a legislator, then let me tell you that you have let out an incident that tells me you have mistaken your trade [cheers, and much laughter]. He would say to such a man, You have not dealt with us fairly—you know what you will do [loud cheers]. Let them, then, take men who would urge the separation of the church and state upon the legislature [cheers]. The question might for a time be disregarded in the House of Commons, but it would work its way up in the House, just in proportion as it did so out of doors, and if one general election did not teach a sufficient lesson, another and another would [cheers]. If they did not live to see the freedom for which they sighed, they would leave it to the generation which should follow, and who would bless the ashes of those whose indomitable perseverance and firmness of purpose, whose undying love of religious liberty, had led to the ultimate results in which it had triumphed [loud applause, which continued for a considerable time]. Mr Burnet concluded by moving the following resolution:—

"That the recent discussions in parliament on the Maynooth Endowment bill, have clearly elicited the fact, that religious liberty is exposed to serious peril, from the views prevalent amongst the two great political parties of our country; and it is, therefore, incumbent on the Protestant Dissenters of the empire to seek the return to the House of Commons, of men reared in their midst, conversant with their principles, and both able and willing to advocate them in the legislature."

Mr WILLIAM FORSTER, of Highgate, Independent minister, seconded the resolution. The time had arrived when the Dissenters must have "a local habitation and a name," and teach the legislature the nature and justice of their demands; and, in order to do this, they must send to parliament men who were calculated to give such lessons to the legislature. Sir Robert Peel did not wish the borough of Southwark to send a Tory to parliament—he knew what that would mean—and he would rather see a Whig-Radical who supported the endowment of Maynooth elected as their representative [hear, hear]. Such a selection would justify the contempt with which he had treated the Dissenters [hear, hear]. It was said that, by supporting Mr Miall, they would divide the Liberal interest, and let a Tory in. If such was the result, would the great interests of the empire come to nought? Would it not rather strike terror into the Peel cabinet when they saw that the Dissenters were throwing aside their political feelings because their religious rights had been assailed [cheers]. Mr Miall was not the nominee of the Association, who had never been consulted as to his coming forward. He had been invited by the electors themselves—he was their candidate. But, as they had invited him, the Anti-state-church Association, confiding in his integrity and wisdom—in the rectitude of his principles and his mind—resolved that they would do their utmost to enable the electors to send him to parliament as their representative [cheers]. They did not sustain him in the character of a politician—for some members of the Association did not go the length of supporting his views upon the extension of the suffrage—but, in a crisis like the present, when religious liberty was being tampered with and assailed by clumsy and unjust legislation, if they had a thousand votes they would give them all to Mr Miall [loud cheers]. State necessity—the relations between France, America, and this country—and the importance, in such a crisis, of tranquillising Ireland—would be made the plea for endowing the Roman Catholic clergy, and then politicians so undecided on the subject as Sir William Molesworth would not scruple to support the ministry [hear, hear]. It, therefore, behoved them to make a resolute stand, and send to parliament a representative who was the determined opponent of the endowment of religion by the state, and upon whose conduct they could confidently rely [cheers, and cries of "We will"].

Dr THOMAS PRICE said: The peroration of the discourse had been assigned to him, and he confessed that he shrunk from it when he bore in mind the character of the discourse itself, and the ability with which the matters submitted to their attention had been set forth and enforced. He felt, under these circumstances, that he could have wished some other and higher order of mind should have been present to enforce the practical conclusion to which his resolution painted. That resolution was as follows:—

"That the qualifications of Mr Miall, as the indefatigable advocate of entire religious freedom, preeminently fit him to represent the principles and views of the Protestant Dissenters of the empire; and that this meeting, therefore, having regard, exclusively, to the ecclesiastical principles avowed in his printed address, most urgently calls upon the Dissenting electors of Southwark to give him their united and cordial support."

That resolution kept in view the exclusively ecclesiastical character of the body which had convened that meeting. Whatever opinions might be entertained by the gentlemen composing that body, on the various questions of general politics, they were one only on the ecclesiastical ground, and on that ground alone they then appeared before them. As was known to many persons present, his own views would go fully and cordially to the full extent of the political sentiments of his friend Mr Miall [loud cheers]. As an individual, he could have no hesitation in avowing himself an advocate, not only of freedom of religion, but of freedom of legislation in those class interests which had hitherto led it astray. The resolution declared that, on account of Mr Miall's ecclesiastical views, he was deemed preeminently qualified to represent the sentiments of the great Nonconformist body in the House of Commons. There was no man in the three kingdoms—he spoke it advisedly—during the period he had been before the public, who had rendered to religious liberty more important and consistent services [cheers]. There was no man who had brought to the consideration of the topics involved in that question, a profounder intellect, a deeper sympathy, a more innate conviction that with it were bound up the interests of society and the vindication of the Church of Christ [loud cheers]. He had laboured assiduously, and, at first, amid many discouragements; certainly without those rewards which were accustomed to sweeten the labours of many public men [hear]. And he appeared before them simply in that light, as one who had consistently and ably expounded and enforced the principles of religious liberty—who had dragged forth those principles, not so much from the unbelief of the men whom they had addressed, as from the indifference and supineness with which their enforcement was acknowledged: for while they held those principles—whilst they were cradled in them—it had not been till comparatively recently, that they had felt the solemn and imperative necessity laid upon them for their inworking into the public mind. They had felt they were matters pertaining to themselves, which they were to hold individually, and upon which in their religious associations they might act; but they did not seek to plant them before the intellect of the nation, and represent them in such an attitude as should command the homage of the public mind, and ultimately secure for them a recognition in the statute book [hear, hear, hear]. To that they had pledged themselves, and, by God's help, to that their labours should tend, whether in health, in sickness, or in death [cheers]. They had an important case now furnished, in which it was possible for them to give some practical proof of the value which they set on those principles [cheers]. Mr Miall was said, on one side, to be an able representative, but he was opposed by a gentleman of whom he would speak with respect. He had, however, to deal with them on the question of religious liberty, and the matter between them stood thus: Sir W. Molesworth, notwithstanding his knowledge of the interest taken in the Maynooth question by the electors of Southwark, preserved in his address an absolute and unbroken silence, which was equivalent to an acknowledgment that his views did not accord with those of a majority of the electors. But the case did not rest there. Sir Wm Molesworth, at a meeting in that room, distinctly stated, honestly and without reserve—and so far as the mere honesty was concerned, he respected him for the fact—he stated that, had he been in the House of Commons at the time the Maynooth bill was before the legislature, he should have voted with his party, saying he regarded it as an educational measure. It was, forsooth, not an ecclesiastical, but an educational measure, and therefore to support it involved no violation of the voluntary principle [laughter]. An educational measure! If ever there was an ecclesiastical measure submitted to parliament, it was this; and he felt little respect for the intellect or the heart of the man who could put forth such a plea [loud cheers]. He knew it had been used by others whom, on other grounds, he would willingly support. But when he saw clear-minded men affirm that such a measure for the education of the religious teachers of a particular body—when he heard them affirm that their vote for such a bill was justified, because it was not an ecclesiastical but educational measure—he was compelled to charge them either with feebleness of intellect or dishonesty of purpose [much applause]. But further, they were told by Sir William Molesworth that this grant ought not to have been given out of the pockets of the British people, but out of the revenues of the Irish church; and yet at the same time he affirmed, whilst averring that, that, had he been in the House of Commons, he would have given it his support [cheers and laughter]. And what if it had been taken out of the revenues of the Protestant church of Ireland? What mattered it to him whether a pickpocket relieved him from the contents of this pocket or of that [cheers and laughter]—if the money were taken the injury would be equally done. A clergyman, second to none in the establishment, the Hon. Baptist Noel, eminent amongst his brethren, admitted the fairness of considering the property of the Irish church as national property, and subject therefore to the control of the legislature. But if it was not, what business had the Protestant church with it? The Episcopal body ought to be the last to aver that it was not national property; let them deny that it was not, and their title to it was gone, for they received it as taken from another body, and they received it, too, by an act of the legislature [much applause]. Were he a churchman, he would never moot the question; he would never challenge, for one instant, the propriety and rectitude of such an averment as that; he would let it pass from the national eye as soon as he could, for his innate sense of what was honest as well as fair would compel him to admit its force [cheers]. But it was not only because Sir W. Molesworth admitted that he would have supported the Maynooth bill, he affirmed also that he would not pledge himself not to vote against the endowment of the Roman Catholic clergy [cries of "Shame"]; he did not know that he should do so; he scarcely went so far, however, as to say that he did not think he

should do so, but asserted for himself the right to retain his own free course of action, when such a measure was submitted to the legislature. Now, were they prepared to return to parliament a man who honestly told them this? [cries of "No, no."] These were the views of Sir W. Molesworth; but in Mr Miall they had a candidate who averred, without hesitancy, that he objected to the existing alliance between the church and the state, and would labour destroy it. They would not take from Episcopalians the rights which they possessed; let them have the form of church polity they preferred, and the officers they chose, but let them support those officers themselves. He affirmed, if returned as their representative, that he would labour to effect the separation of the unholy alliance between the church and the state, as the great end of his political life. [The nondescript we before alluded to, here exclaimed, "Destroy *my* church?"] Destroy the church of the living God —that church, the outlines of which are developed so clearly in the inspired word as being built upon a rock, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it [great applause]! It was not the poor fragile, perishable thing which such an observation would represent it to be [cheers]. Was it come to this, that the representatives of any nation had the power to destroy any church? Then let them do so, for that which originated with political men, and was supported by political influence, could be associated only with those ends which were akin to the character and spirit of such men [loud cheers]. But they were met by representations which had been made by a friend of his own—one whom, on many accounts, he held in high and deserved esteem. He found in the papers of Saturday the report of a speech of his friend Mr Aldis [marks of disapprobation, and cries of "Shame"]. He had sent to that gentleman, as an honest man, asking only a clear stage and no favour—he had sent to tell him that he should refer to the subject that evening [cheers]—and he was staying in that very neighbourhood, within a quarter of a mile of the place in which they were assembled; and he told him, that if he would come there he should have an opportunity, as free as himself, of addressing the meeting [cheers]. What was it that was alleged? Why, that although he was an opponent of the Maynooth bill, he intended to vote for Sir W. Molesworth, who would have supported it, and who would not pledge himself not to vote for the endowment of the Catholic clergy [cries of "Shame!"]. Oh "tell it not in Gath—mention it not in the streets of Askelon," that a man—one of themselves, deservedly esteemed and loved—should, by some obliquity of intellect [the remainder of the sentence was lost in a thunder of applause]. But it was affirmed, as the ground of doing this, that the cause of Mr Miall was hopeless. Mr Aldis said that Mr Miall's views were his views —that he most nearly represented his sentiments, and, if he thought there was any chance of returning him, he would vote for him. Was success, then, to be the rule of their duty? [loud cheers.] Was there not something before and above all this—the honest and manly, the English and Christian exhibition of their principles? [cheers.] But further, how his friend could have publicly made such a statement without having, in the first place, inquired of some member of Mr Miall's committee whether his cause was so hopeless or not, he could not tell [hear, hear]. It was due from a public man—it was due especially from a Dissenter—it was pre-eminently due from a Dissenting minister [much cheering], that he should not thus have inflicted a blow at the cause of their friend Mr Miall, and upon the cause of religious liberty, without having informed himself of those facts [hear, hear]. Now, he affirmed that there was no such hopelessness [much cheering]. Despair, in Southwark, of the election of a man because he took, explicitly and firmly, the anti-state-church principle! Oh, no [loud cheers], he would not insult the men of Southwark thus. They intended to return such a man to Parliament, and have him there as the exponent of their views [cheers]. It was not a vote in the House of Commons simply which was at stake—he cared not comparatively for a dozen votes. What difference would they make in the decision of that House? But he did care for one clear and illumined spirit, standing up in the midst of the dark masses there [loud cheers]—he did care that they should have in the Legislature a man reared in their midst, thoroughly conversant with their principles, and devoted, body, soul, and strength, to their diffusion [loud cheers]. He did care that the gentlemen of the press, through the medium of the daily and weekly journals, should give currency to those expositions of the principles of Nonconformists which such a man would furnish [hear, hear]. He did care that the ministers of the day—that the two great political parties and factions of the land should learn what they (the Nonconformists) were, and what they meant, and should thus be driven away from those scare-crows by which they had permitted themselves to be alarmed [hear, and laughter]. They need do something, in order to testify the sincerity of their past professions, and there they were to do it. As yet, the mere politicians of the country had had no faith in them, and it was not to be wondered at, for they had done nothing to show it; but they would now learn that they adhered to their principles, and were determined to carry them out [cheers]. By sending to the legislature Anti-state-church men, they would send them just such a response as they deserved for the insolent message of defiance which they had given them [loud cheers]. He rejoiced in these bright and auspicious signs of the times. They all remembered when it was heresy to affirm voluntary principles; when the man who had the temerity to do so, would have been decried and borne down even by his fellows; but, blessed be God, they were moving on; the cloud that was no bigger than a man's hand, was spreading itself over the heavens, and it would speedily cover them [loud cheers]. Now that the religious element had been drawn forth, and was working itself into the hearts of a great people—now that the example of their great forefathers — their Elliots, and Hampdens, and Pyms, was being emulated—now that they saw the rainbow of promise, on which the eye loved to dwell, and which was the harbinger of a better and brighter era than Britain had ever known—now it was indeed time that their public men should know that the religious element was thus mightily at work [great applause]. They were ignorant of its nature, and therefore despised it. The overgrown power of the aristocracy had withered the spirits and depressed the energies of the English nation; but there was now eliciting and coming forth into the arena, an element which could struggle with that gigantic force, and before which, the church would be compelled to relinquish her ill-gotten power [long-con-cheers].

Mr G. Rose, Independent minister (who was introduced as an elector of the borough), came forward to second the resolution, and said, that, as the walls of the borough had been placarded with a resolution, supported by Mr Aldis, to the effect that an honourable baronet was eminently qualified to represent them, he (Mr Rose) had great satisfaction in seconding the resolution which had just been so ably moved, and which truly stated that Mr Miall, as the advocate of religious freedom, was pre-eminently qualified to represent the principles and views of the Protestant Dissenters of the empire [loud cheers]. They had been branded as political Dissenters [hear]; it had, however, become now a religious question. The question of negro emancipation toiled and struggled for many years, and it was not until the religious feelings of the empire were aroused—it was not until it became a religious question that it was ultimately carried by the British parliament. And now they had come forward for ecclesiastical emancipation. They had unfurled that standard [cheers, mingled with a few hisses]. If gentlemen hissed at this, he would say, in the words of one of their friends whom they professed to admire—Mr O'Connell—"If we have trodden on the tail of the serpent of bigotry, then let it hiss on" [immense cheering]. Let it hiss—they would maintain their principles without timidity; they would stand before the constituency of the borough of Southwark, and of the empire at large, being determined to abide by them to the last, and struggle until death for the great and important principle of ecclesiastical emancipation [tremendous cheering]. There were gentlemen on that platform who went the whole length with Mr Miall in his political principles, and he believed that the supporter of the resolution, with which their walls had been placarded, went that length too [hear, hear]. He must not conceal the fact, however, that there were many persons in the borough, and perhaps in every town in the empire, who did not agree with him in his political views, but who would go the whole length of his ecclesiastical opinions. It was almost impossible to find a candidate whose sentiments would exactly accord with every tittle of their creed; but on the question of Maynooth, as Protestant Dissenters, they all sympathised in the religious view of that question; and he therefore urged them to support Mr Miall, in whom they could place the most implicit confidence [cheers]. Mr Pilcher now termed himself a Liberal, and called upon all men, Dissenters and Churchmen, of all creeds and no creeds [laughter], to support him. There was a vulgar proverb which they heard in the streets, and perhaps it was not fit for ears polite, "Don't you wish you may get it?" [cheers]. Dissenters had been gulled too long; they must now send a man to parliament who would be "a light to shine upon their darkness" [cheers]. He was not without hope that their friend Mr Aldis would, after all, be a true man when the day of trial came, as his only ground of supporting Sir Wm Molesworth was his apprehension that the return of Mr Miall would be impracticable. He hoped they should show him, on the first day of the election, that Mr Miall's return was not only not impracticable, but almost certain [cheers]; and so they should have a right to call upon him to stand forth, and abide by his own principles. He would only add, that the support which Mr Aldis had given to the resolution which had been posted about the borough, had had a contrary effect to that which had been intended. He (Mr Rose) had since been amongst men who were disposed to be very quiet, but who were now turning round, and exerting themselves actively. When they could unite together the earnest men, or, as the *Times* called them, the "rigid Dissenters," he thought both the other candidates would look with dismay on the front which they should present. He, like Mr Aldis, had been visited by certain honourable gentlemen, who represented the impolicy of dividing the Liberal interest, and solicited him to follow in the wake of his friend; but he was determined to nail his colours to the mast, and never desert the cause of religious freedom [cheers]. They were not the men to flinch [renewed cheers]. If they lost the election, they should teach a great and important lesson to the ministry, and their Whig advocates, as well as to the constituencies of the empire at large [loud cheers].

J. M. Webb, Esq., proposed the thanks of the meeting to the chairman for his conduct in the chair. The motion, having been seconded, was put and agreed to (as were all the previous resolutions), the two individuals we have before alluded to being the only dissentients. The chairman returned thanks, and the meeting separated about ten o'clock.

BANKRUPTCY OF THE ECCLESIASTICAL COMMISSION.

Of all the cases of the unblushing mal-appropriation of ecclesiastical funds which ever came under our notice, we think that of the Ecclesiastical Commission is the grossest. The Bishop of London conducts this body, or did so before its bankruptcy; and, under his lordship's direction, £2,000,000 or £3,000,000 have been recklessly squandered and jobbed away in the dioceses of the committee. The funds granted to the church by the state, and collected from pious dowagers, were, it has always been asserted, to be appropriated for the erection of churches in destitute localities. Instead of this, "the bishops (the *Times* informs us) have taken them for the building of episcopal palaces. They have grasped tens of thousands for their ecclesiastical pomp and pride, whilst they have kept back a few paltry hundreds, which would have afforded unspeakable comfort and happiness to whole parishes of the luckless and disregarded poor."

Nearly £30,000 have just been paid for a palace for the Bishop of Rochester in Essex. A handsome premium on non-residence! £16,000 was paid for building the Bishop of Ripon's palace, besides a large sum for the purpose of the land. The Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol has since been new housed at the expense of the disappointed churches. The Bishop of Lincoln has also been lately new seated; and, in a way perfectly consistent with the business-like habits of the commission: it appears, that through some most strange neglect, a profit of not less than £15,000 or £16,000 was made by some parties concerned in this purchase. Now, when it is considered that all the deaneries and stalls in the kingdom, besides other church property, are in the course of being mulcted to provide funds for this commission, is it not too bad that there should be no other result than waste and misapplication? With regard to the churches which have been endowed, much partiality is said to have been shown; in some dioceses spiritual wants have been altogether rejected, while in others they have been profusely supplied." There was, until lately, a society whose object it was to arrest and bring to justice all begging impostors: have they ceased to exist, and pensioned their lynx-eyed officers? or are all mendicants in the clerical garb to be allowed henceforth to prey upon the public in this *ad libitum* style? We should have thought that at any rate some of the ring-leaders of this notorious gang would have before this made their appearance in one of our police offices.

In conclusion, it may be as well to state that these episcopal state paupers, who cannot, in their excess of penury, find means to house themselves, receive the following incomes:—Rochester, £3,794; Ripon, £4,123; Gloucester, £3,989; Lincoln, £4,639.

The Wesleyans and the Church.—At the sitting of Conference, on the 15th inst., at Leeds, a conversation arose on the perils of the English universities. Several ministers observed, that whenever a Wesleyan youth was sent to Oxford or Cambridge, to complete his education, he became an alien to Methodism. "It holds," said a distinguished preacher, "with almost the regularity of a law, that however much the parents might regret it, their son, if sent to the university, came out of it a High Church-of-England man." His own son, he added, wished to go, but he could not let him, (Applause.) It appeared, further, that the pupils at the Sheffield Proprietary School, instead of being taken to a Wesleyan chapel on the Sunday, were now kept at homes and attended service in the college-chapel, the minister officiating in a gown and bands; and instance, were named in which the young men, when among their friends, at holiday-times, would not go to chapel, preferring the services of the parish-church. The rules of the Sheffield institution, it seems, require that the head-master shall be an Oxford or Cambridge graduate.—On the 16th inst., a committee was appointed, on the motion of Dr Bunting, to arrange a form of marriage-service for Wesleyan societies. A resolution was passed, to the effect, that no candidate for the ministry, having a matrimonial engagement (!), should be admitted as a student into the Theological Institution. The Conference separated on Friday, August 15th. The Conference of 1846 will be held in Bristol. A correspondent of the *Leeds Intelligencer*, calling himself a "No-Puseyite Methodist," says:—"Your account of the proceedings of the Wesleyan Conference announces the fact that the liturgy was read very devotionally by the Rev. Dr Jackson, that the *Venite* and *Te Deum* were chanted by the choir and congregation, and that the ordination service was also used. Now, sir, if that you have stated be true, I am afraid I must, with many others, leave the connexion. For years we have laboured to keep out of our chapels written forms of prayer. I consider the Conference has sanctioned downright Puseyism."

Taking Care of the Flock.—More than three months ago, upwards of a hundred of the principal inhabitants of Wantage, Berks, addressed a respectful memorial to the Bishop of Oxford, setting forth, that a non-resident pluralist, who draws upwards of £700 a year from the parish, gives a laborious curate only £150 per annum, though this is the lowest sum fixed by law as the stipend for a curate where the population is only 1,000 souls; whereas, at Wantage the population is three times that number. This memorial, so honourable to the parishioners, has not received even the scanty courtesy of an acknowledgment from the Bishop! — *Oxford Chronicle.*—[The living is held by the Dean of Windsor, of proverbial liberality.]

SAINT BARTHOLOMEW'S DAY.—Last Sunday being the anniversary of the massacre of multitudes of Protestants at Paris, on St Bartholomew's day, 1572, and likewise of the ejection of upwards of two thousand ministers of the Church of England, on that day, in 1662, by the provisions of the Act of Uniformity, Mr Webb, the minister of Stoke-green chapel, in this town, took occasion, with many Dissenting ministers throughout the kingdom, to point out the flagrant errors and mischiefs involved in the constitution and operations of state churches. Mr W. selected, as his text, the words of the apostle Paul, recorded 1 Cor. 4th c., 9th v., "Persecuted, but not forsaken;" and after having shown the pertinence of the language with regard to the writer and his coadjutors, and the universal church of God, he proceeded to give a brief account of the two events just named. He then reminded his audience that all state churches, at some period or other of their history, had been persecuting churches, and, thence inferring that there must be something radically wrong in their constitution, he proceeded to point out wherein that wrong lay. After having stated that Dissenters objected to the church of this country not so strongly as *Episcopal*, as *established*, and in *union with the state*, and after having paid a tribute of respect to the pious, whether lay or clerical, within her pale, he drew a contrast between the system of Protestant Nonconformity and that of the Church of England.—*Ipswich Express.*

THE INDELIBLE CHARACTER.—The absurdity of the dogma, "once a parson always a parson," recently laid down with so much emphasis by Sir Herbert J. Fust, is strikingly exhibited in the case of the Rev. Mr Wetherell, reported in the *Mercury* of the present week. Here we have a clergyman surrendering himself up to the most abhorrent licentiousness; plunging his only child into perpetual degradation in this life, and, so far as he has the power, closing the door of hope for another; and notwithstanding all this infamy and ruin to himself, to his order, and to his family, he is to retain his character as a clergyman, and to remain through life a disgrace to that church, the character of which he has so deeply degraded.—*Leeds Mercury.*

THE FREE CHURCH ASSEMBLY commenced its meetings at Inverness on Thursday. They meet in a wooden pavilion, capable of seating 3,000 people, erected for the occasion. The proceedings, as far as we have yet heard, have been chiefly preliminary. Spacious as is the place of meeting, says the correspondent of the *Morning Chronicle*, it is daily filled to overflowing, although, in order to defray the expense of the pavilion, the tickets of admission are sold at a shilling apiece. The first day of meeting was set apart principally for preaching and devotional exercises, the moderator of the assembly explaining, in a discourse delivered in the forenoon, the principles and objects of the new ecclesiastial movement. As nearly one-half of the number present cannot understand English, the afternoon discourse was delivered in Gaelic, by one of the adherents of the church, commonly denominated the "Apostle of the Highlands." With the exception of Dr Chalmers, all the "great guns" of the Free Church are present on the spot. The Marquis of Breadalbane was expected, but has not yet made his appearance, but Mr Campbell of Monzie, and the Right Hon. Fox Maule, M.P., were very early on the ground. The former gentleman is reported to have given nearly thirty thousand pounds, in various contributions, to the different schemes set on foot by the Free Church; and if the latter has not contributed an equal amount in money, he renders himself essentially useful to the body, by taking a prominent part in all their proceedings in Scotland, and representing their views in parliament. The proceedings will last about a week. On Monday the deputation, which were some time ago appointed by the assembly, for the purpose of investigating into the condition of the Highlands, were expected to make their report. The subject of sites will, of course, form a very prominent feature of these reports; but they will by no means be confined to this; and it is expected that they will lay before the meeting the whole condition of the highland population.

CONGREGATIONAL UNION OF IRELAND.—On Monday evening last, a public meeting was held at Vicar-lane chapel, Coventry, on behalf of this institution, the object of which is to sustain and promote the preaching of the gospel in Ireland. Mr J. Sibree presided; and addresses were delivered by Dr Urwick of Dublin; and Mr J. D. Smith, of Newry; who in an eloquent and impressive manner portrayed the wants and woes of Ireland, and contended that the system of Popery is the main cause of the physical and moral evils that have so long afflicted that unhappy country: at the same time enforcing her claims on British statesmen for justice, and on British Christians for mercy. The collection including a donation from, Joseph Cash Esq., of £5. amounted to £16 12s. 10d.

CLAPHAM-ROAD CHAPEL.—On Thursday last, the chapel in Clayland's road, purchased by the Metropolis Chapel Fund, was re-opened for divine worship. The association have erected galleries, containing 270 sittings, which, with the 345 in the body of the chapel, furnish accommodation for 615 persons. The chapel, which has been, in many respects, materially improved, is an exceedingly neat and commodious edifice. The morning preacher was Mr James Hill, of Clapham; and the evening, Dr Bennett. Messrs James Mirams, S. Dubourg, Edwards, of Kingston; Rowland, of Henley; George Rose, E. Mannering, and J. Robinson, secretary of the association, took parts in the services. The collections amounted to £33 14s. 9d., besides some donations,

THE NEW REFORMATION IN GERMANY.

No further rioting has occurred at Leipsic, but the inhabitants still remain in a state of great excitement, in consequence of the slaughter of their fellow-citizens. Tranquillity was restored by withdrawing the garrison to the barracks, and calling out the students and the civic guard to keep the public peace. But the magistrates who took these judicious and effectual measures then proceeded to address the King in a tone little suited to the taste of the court. They, the representatives of the people who had been fired upon by a blunder of the military forces, regard themselves as the aggrieved party, and demand a searching investigation of the causes of this mischief. Although the name of Prince John is not mentioned in their address, his Royal Highness is significantly enough alluded to. Prince John is openly charged as having insisted upon the soldiers firing, contrary to the advice and remonstrance of the commandant, Colonel von Buttlar. It is alleged that the colonel refused to order the fatal interference of the military, upon the ground that the Prince was present in his character of chief of the National Guard, and that as such he, the colonel, could not receive orders from him; that the Prince then tore the white badge of the National Guard from his arm, repeated the command in his capacity as a general officer in the Saxon service, and, at Colonel Buttlar's demand, handed it to him in writing.

The King replies in a sort of proclamation, in which his personal sentiments are intermingled with his constitutional authority, that his confidence in the loyalty and good conduct of the city of Leipsic is shaken; and he reminds the citizens of what they seem to have forgotten—that his brother had been grossly insulted, and the public authority defied by the mob. This will not do for the Leipzicers, and it is not by such means that the public will be weaned back to loyalty and tranquillity. The King is probably impressed with a like belief, as four pieces of cannon were on Monday morning escorted into Leipsic by a small body of cavalry; and it was currently reported that an order had arrived from Dresden to disarm and disband the national guard.

The Saxon government appears to be determined to try its strength in opposing this movement; and there can be little doubt that the cabinet of Berlin is about to adopt measures of equal vigour against the Protestant Dissenters, as well as against the leaders of the German Catholics. A letter from Berlin, dated August 15, says—"On the 13th of this month a ministerial rescript was addressed to the censors, most strictly enjoining them to refuse their *imprimatur* to all paragraphs which contain the most distant allusion to religious matters in their periodicals, which are not expressly authorised by their license to treat of religious controversies."

Others of the petty German princes go still further in their impotent attempt to put down the movement. A letter, dated August 11, from Cassel, states—"A cabinet order of the electoral Prince Regent has been received here, by which the formation of German communities is prohibited in the whole electorate of Hesse Cassel. Instructions were immediately sent from the department of the interior to all the provincial governments to carry this order into effect without delay. The propagation of the doctrines of the New Catholics is forbidden, and the police are to take care that no subscriptions and collections in their favour are set on foot in Hesse Cassel. Whoever acts in violation of this prohibition renders himself liable to prosecution and punishment." It is expected that the matter will be made the subject of discussion in the Germanic Diet, with a view to some positive decision as to the degree of freedom to be granted to the new sect of the German Catholic church.

A scene of tumult is also described as having occurred at Halberstadt, in the regency of Magdeburg. On this occasion Ronge concluded a sermon in the cathedral in these words, "Rome should fall and shall fall." "And so shall you, heretic," exclaimed an opponent, and threw a stone at the preacher. The reformer was then knocked down with a stick. The military were called in, and failed in restoring order. The house of the man who knocked down Ronge is said to have been demolished; but his partisans rallied, and drove back the Roman Catholics.

The *Gazette des Postes*, of Frankfort, says that orders have been sent from Berlin to the pastor Ronge, M. Uhlich, and M. Czerski, forbidding them to leave the town where they are now residing without the leave of government.

(From the *Spectator.*)

Too little is known in this country of Ronge, Czersky, and their followers, to supply materials for an estimate of the character and importance of the new schism in the Roman Catholic church of Germany. But the sect is probably strong and increasing, since the mob have betaken themselves to break windows and pelt princes in its behalf; that being the test by which governments in all ages have agreed to measure the reality and intensity of religious or political enthusiasm.

To those who have paid attention to the progress of opinion among the Roman Catholics of Germany for the last half-century, the defection of Ronge, and the apparently rapid progress of his doctrines, are not surprising. His secession is no unprepared or isolated event; it is rather the natural consequence of a number of preparatory incidents. About 1798, the priest Becker, of Paderborn (Westphalia), was imprisoned by order of his ecclesiastical superiors, the prebends of the cathedral. He never was brought to trial: the prime bishop and his councillors felt that a rash step had been taken, and connived at the old man's escape into a secular and Protestant territory. The rest of his life was wasted in litigation with those who incarcerated, but dared not bring a definite charge against him. Extracts (MS.) from his journal, written in confinement, are in our possession; and it indicates his offence with sufficient clearness. He had been in the habit of instituting Sunday schools; he had expressed a conviction that the religious processions of both sexes from village to village with the images of saints, in the course of which liquor was offered to the "pilgrims" at every farm-house and accepted by them, were productive of indecorums and graver offences against morality; he was involved in a controversy with other priests on the relative importance of such formal observances and the observance of moral duties; and, finally, he spoke of Luther as a great man, whose rebellion against the church was extenuated by the abuses against which he had struggled in vain. At that time and since, there have been not a few Beckers among the inferior Roman Catholic clergy, scattered through Germany, uninfluential because they had no communication with each other, and because their superiors judiciously refrained from persecuting them. There was another powerful element at work to modify the creed of the German adherents of the Italian church. Under the empire, ecclesiastical electors and other prelates possessing secular jurisdiction necessarily had each his staff of secular councillors. Like almost all the literary class of their country, the ablest and most energetic of these men were, about the beginning of the present century, disciples of the French revolutionary school of politics; and more than one of the dignified clergy themselves had leanings that way. At the disruption of the empire, an elector of Mayence did not scruple to take upon him the office of Fürst Primas of the Confederation of the Rhine. Under the protection of these free-thinking dignitaries and their councils, latent dissent within the church continued to gain ground. The personal impunity with which Hermes, Van Eck, and others have disseminated their neological opinions, and the persevering clamorous urgency of the Silesian priesthood to be allowed to take unto themselves wives, with many other local phenomena of a kindred character, have long convinced the observant that reform (or innovation) from within was at hand in the German province of the Romish church. Ronge and Czersky, like most other ecclesiastical and political reformers, are little more than accidents—the local weather-flaw, that becomes, in an atmosphere saturated with electricity, the nucleus of a storm.

What direction the movement will take—what consequences it will lead to—may admit, in the quaint language of the author of "Urn Burial," of "a wide conjecture." Its more immediate effects in Germany will possibly disturb the territorial relations and balance of power in the confederacy. The reigning house in Saxony appears to have opposed itself with keen partisanship to the German Catholics. The proselytising spirit of these princes has long rendered them objects of jealousy to the zealously Protestant people over whom they reign. On the other hand, the Prussian government appears to be countenancing the German Catholics, with just enough of seeming reluctance to take from neighbour princes any ground for remonstrance. The Prussian government and the royal house of Saxony are to all appearance placing themselves at the heads of the opposing parties. The relentless pertinacity with which Prussia has, for more than a hundred years, kept adding territory to territory, clearly indicates what is likely to be, under these circumstances, the result of any popular commotion; and the insult offered to Prince John, and the blood shed by the soldiers at Leipzig, may be the beginning of one. In a few years, the remaining third* of the Saxon electorate may be annexed to Prussia.

But it is not likely that the effects of the movement among the Roman Catholics of Germany will be confined to that country. Though diffused over many lands, the Roman Catholic church is one body; a disturbance in any part of it vibrates immediately through the whole. In certain states of the public opinion of the church, it is peculiarly liable to be weakened by assaults like that of Ronge. It is not easy to parry an argument that appeals to the evidence of the senses. Many who would pay little attention to abstract reasoning against the miraculous virtues of the holy coat of Treves, are shaken when they are told that there are actually three holy coats in existence, all possessed of equal virtues. By persisting to attribute infallibility to the office of priest (if not to the office-bearer), the Romish church lays itself bare to attacks which cannot reach Protestant sects, who attribute infallibility to scripture alone, and can always withdraw from an untenable position under the cover of a "misinterpretation." A Protestant error weakens only the individual—a Roman Catholic error weakens the church. The effects of a controversy like that raised by Ronge can be confined to the country or district in which it originates only when the Roman Catholics of other countries are not predisposed to controversy. But over most part of Europe they are at this moment so predisposed. In Switzerland the Jesuit controversy has opened a door to the sectaries of Ronge. In France the university controversy has had the same effect. In Belgium the priests have not always used the influence wisely which the Revolution threw into their hands. In Ireland the M'Hales and Higginses are not ill adapted to be precursors of some Irish Ronge; and the ardour of some ecclesiastical Repealers is likely enough to predispose

* A German compendium of geography says, "The present kingdom of Saxony consists of about one-third of the former electorate."

the Catholic aristocracy to a schism. As at the time of the Lutheran reformation, the Italian priesthood will, in all probability, make it a question of national ascendancy in the church, and Austria, from fear of all innovation, will support them. In Italy and the Austrian dominions the schism is least likely to be felt, though in the latter German Catholicism may find a *point d'appui* in Transylvania, while, in the more sequestered districts of Moravia and Bohemia, the traditional influence of the doctrines of the Moravian brothers and John of Huss may not yet be utterly extinct.

The progress of this new sect is a matter of general interest; for it may alter the relations of internal parties in most European states, and diminish or increase the territories of leading members of the great European confederation.

Conversion by the Sword.—Accounts of the 12th inst, from the Polish frontier, state that the Russian government have despatched to a village in Lithuania several ministers of the Greek church, in order to convert the peasantry, supported by a detachment, consisting of an officer and forty men. The peasantry, however, had inveigled the priests into a neighbouring forest, and murdered them. They had likewise set fire to the barn in which the soldiers were quartered, and thrown into the flames all those who attempted to escape. The same accounts state that the town of Luck had six times been ravaged by fire between the 6th and 26th of May.

Several Old Crazy Steamers ply with passengers on the river. On Sunday last one of these old steamers sunk near the Red-house—fortunately no lives were lost, but such another escape may not occur again.

New Zealand.—"Auckland, March 22, 1845.—I have just had additional news from the Bay of Islands, which is worth communicating, as the mail is now closed, and the vessel sails for Sydney at daybreak. The chiefs Nene (or Thomas Walker), Ripa, and many others, have already marched over from Hokianga (two days' journey) to the Bay of Islands with 800 men, cut down a flagstaff Heki had erected, and are going to set to work with cudgels for us. Napua (or Noble) joins them in a few days with 1,200 or 2,000 more, and Heki will be shot or taken prisoner. All this is done, not only without application from the governor, but even after having, in reply to various offers of service, been told to remain quiet, as the Governor would settle his own quarrel with Heki. This is most gratifying, as proving the dependence to be placed on the good feeling of the natives, of which no stronger proof can be given."—*Morning Chronicle.*

Fulfilment of Prophecy.—It is very remarkable that Monsieur Arago, the French astronomer, whose prediction that the Seine would be frozen over this year on the 8th of March was so singularly realised, has been equally right in his anticipations as to the very day when the wet summer (which he also predicted) would end. He foretold that the weather would change on the 20th of August, and so it did, after a storm which had left behind it fearful traces in France. If the brilliant September which M. Arago now announces come true, there will be nothing to retard the development of British industry in the dearth, or dearness of food, for never was the ground so laden with produce—the green crops, vegetables, and fruit being even more abundant than the grain.—*Weekly Chronicle.*

New Prison on the Solitary System.—The Middlesex magistrates have determined to pull down the New Prison, Clerkenwell, and to erect on its site an enlarged place of confinement, into which the solitary system will be introduced, on the plan of the Model Prison, Pentonville.

Melancholy Occurrence at Ilfracombe.—On Wednesday morning a melancholy accident occurred at Ilfracombe. Three ladies, named Bailey and Peterborough, had been staying at a boarding house on the quay, and had been in the habit of bathing in the sea from the back of the house. These ladies being most expert, extraordinary, and excellent swimmers, have been in the habit of plunging into deep water; but, on Wednesday morning, the wind and sea being both high, Miss Fanny Bailey ventured to bathe, but, from the sea beating against the wall, she was not enabled to swim against the receding waters, in order to recover the steps from which she had plunged, and was at the mercy of the waves; she did not lose her self-possession, and kept herself nobly on the surface of the waters. An alarm was raised on the quay that a lady was in the sea, and drowning, and a general call for ropes and persons who could swim, in order to endeavour to save her. Mr Edward Stephens, a respectable shoemaker of the town, happening to pass by, went through the house, stripped off his clothes, and dashed into the foaming waves, succeeded in coming up with the lady. A rope was then thrown to her, which she missed, but succeeded the second time, and was safely brought to the steps. Mr Stephens, when he found the lady had secured the rope, let go his hold of her, when a wave took him out to sea, and a subsequent wave was seen to strike him, which is supposed to have stunned him. He immediately went under water, and was drowned. He has left a widow and two children. The Misses Bailey are ladies of good property. They have been with the disconsolate widow, and have assured her, that neither she nor the fatherless children shall be allowed to want any necessary comfort.

Scotch Poor-Law Bill.—We understand that Sir John Macneill, G.C.B., is to be first commissioner under the Scotch Poor Law Amendment act, and William Smythe, Esq., advocate, secretary to the board.—*Scotch Reformer's Gazette.*

ATROCIOUS CASE OF CLERICAL DEPRAVITY.

An action for criminal conversation was tried at the Croydon assizes, last week, in the course of which circumstances of unexampled horror and attrocity were laid open. The action was instituted by John Mynde Cooke, an attorney residing in London, against his father-in-law, Mr W. Wetherell, rector of Byfield, Northamptonshire, a man 55 years of age, to obtain compensation for the seduction of his wife, by the defendant, himself the father of the wretched woman. It appeared from the evidence that Mrs Cooke was the defendant's only child, and that she was entitled to a fortune of £20,000, which her father obtained possession of on her coming of age, and squandered away in a couple of years. From part of the evidence it appeared to be doubtful whether an incestuous intercourse did not exist between the defendant and his daughter at that time, but however that may be, she accepted the addresses of the plaintiff, and, in the end, eloped with him. Within a fortnight of the marriage with the plaintiff, she returned to her father's house in company with her husband, who soon after discovered that all her fortune had been spent away, and that she had even given acceptances of large sums, for which he was liable. This discovery led to violent quarrels, in the course of which Mrs Cooke, who was entirely under the influence of her father, displayed the most malignant hatred of her husband, and positively refused to live with him again. Instead of doing so she remained in her father's house, and, according to the evidence, she there lived with her father in open incest and adultery. The particulars of her guilt, and of that of her father, were proved clearly, by the evidence of the servants. The jury returned a verdict for the plaintiff—damages £3,000. The defendant intends to appeal against the verdict.

Mr Wetherell is the son of a builder of the same name, who some time ago carried on that business in the vicinity of Kensington. He is at present an inmate of the Queen's Bench prison, at the suit of his son-in-law, Mr Cooke, for no less a sum than £14,000, but was present at the trial on Friday last, on a "day rule," being anxious, as it was stated, to afford his counsel his personal assistance and instruction in the cross-examination of the witnesses called against him. At the adjournment of the court, however, he has returned to his former quarters, and did not make his appearance afterwards. The *Times* says, that Mr Wetherell has not for nearly two years been residing in his parish of Byfield, or performing any of the duty there; for his living having been put under sequestration, the bishop of the diocese, by virtue of the power given him under the Pluralities act, placed a resident curate in the parish.

The *Times* of Wednesday, in an article severely commenting on this case, says—

Unhappily, the state of the common law is such, that it has no punishment whatsoever for the rev. delinquent. The Ecclesiastical court may, indeed, visit him with its censure, and the bishop may deprive him of his living; but this halting and ineffectual castigation—this *pede pœna claudo*—which would be a most inadequate retribution for so enormous an offence, is, in the present instance, peculiarly powerless, for the defendant's income is already due as reparation for his robbery of the fortune of his daughter and his victim. Cutting off his church income merely prevents his paying his debt and his damages, whilst, as for silencing him, his ecclesiastical function needs no episcopal edict to bring it to a close; for sure we are that no congregation in England would endure his further pollution of the pulpit; damages he cannot pay. Thus there is little short of legal impunity for this spoiler of his child—this ruiner of her purse and person—this destroyer of her body and soul. The law has provided no prosecutor for the reverend seducer. Public opinion will compel him, it is true, to travel; he may go to Paris, or to Naples. Many a better man has had no choice as to Norfolk Island for life.

"Cases such as these," says the *Leeds Times*, "could not occur among the ministers of any church, unless there were some powerful corrupting influence at work amongst them. The recent cases of the Honourable and Reverend Mr Monckton, of the Rev. Mr Marsh, of the Rev. Francis Thomas, and such like, were cases such as never occur among the clergy of any other religious sect, where such corrupting influences are not at work. This corrupting influence is riches. The state church is an institution in which 'preferment' is valued far above duty. Men are promoted to rich livings solely by reason of their superior 'interest.' They are the friends of certain rich men, perhaps bishops, who have a great deal of patronage to bestow; and they are promoted, not because of fitness of character, but from motives of interest, of pelf, of mere mammon. How true it is, of men in the church as well as out of it, that 'they that will be rich fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and hurtful lusts, which will drown men in destruction and perdition. For the love of money is the root of all evil.' The clergy, however, do not avoid it on that account, but seem rather to cling to it the more closely."

Capital Punishments.—An association has been formed in this city, with the view of co-operating in any movement which may be made for the abolition of capital punishment. The Rev. F. Bishop has delivered two lectures on the subject, which have excited much interest.—*Western (Exeter) Times.*

Atmospheric Propulsion.—A series of private experiments have been conducted on the London and Croydon line of railway, and will be continued for the next few days, for the purpose of testing the powers of atmospheric propulsion, and the most marked and decided success has attended all the experiments that have been hitherto performed.

HER MAJESTY'S VISIT TO GERMANY.

In our last number we left the royal travelers at Mayence, where they arrived on Saturday week. During their stay there they occupied the Hotel de l'Europe. Sunday was a day of rest. In the afternoon, the Queen and Prince Albert attended Divine service at the English church. In the morning some few visitors called at the hotel, and among them was the Duke of Hesse Darmstadt. Afterwards they dined with Prince William at the Government house.

On Monday the Queen, Prince Albert, and suite, left Mayence before eight o'clock, that morning, in a close carriage and four; with a single German postillion, riding, after the fashion of his country, on one of the wheel-horses. The escort was a small troop of Prussian hussars. The traveling was not performed with English speed, and the party did not enter Frankfort-on-the-Maine till half-past. Her Majesty did not alight, but received in her carriage the compliments of divers ambassadors, and in five or ten minutes proceeded on her journey.

On Tuesday evening about half-past five o'clock her Majesty and Prince Albert, with their suite, arrived safely at the palace of the Grand Duke of Saxe Coburg, having left Wurzburg at half-past six in the morning, and traveled all day. There was a very brilliant reception at Coburg. The town was illuminated and troops lined the principal streets: they fired salutes as the royal travelers arrived. Her Majesty slept in the very room in which Prince Albert was born. The journey from Wurzburg here, except that the weather was not quite propitious, was not the least interesting part of the whole tour. The reigning Duke of Saxe Coburg was at the frontier to receive his brother and sister-in-law, and he rode by the side of the royal carriage, the King and Queen of the Belgians being within.

The whole reception at Coburg was the prettiest thing imaginable. The whole population turned out to meet the royal party. At the entrance to the town the Burgomaster and town Councillors were stationed to receive the royal party; and from this point throughout the city the eye saw but one long festoon. At the boundary a splendid triumphal arch stretched across the road, from which hung flags, and every house in the long line of street through which the royal *cortège* passed was gaily decorated with garlands, festoons, flags, and flowers. After taking a slight refreshment at the palace, the royal party proceeded to Rosenau, the summer residence of the Duke, which is described in the following terms.:—

Rosenau itself is the beau-ideal of a summer residence. Although built on a princely scale, it looks like an enormous *cottage ornée*, embowered in trees and flowers. The name, Rosenau, "the meadow of roses," aptly describes the lovely valley from which the palace rises. The views commanded from the windows are of the finest kind. A landscape of more than English softness and luxuriance—meadow, woodland, and stream—is spread at the foot, while all around, as far as the eye can reach, mountains of Highland grandeur, clothed to their summits with fir or with rich woods, enclose it and develope its beauties by a noble contrast. In the distance, at the extremity of the valley, lies Coburg itself.

After the natural beauties of the place, the next peculiarity that strikes an English mind is the utter absence of all ceremonial and exclusiveness. There is none of that sulky solitary grandeur, with which English noblemen and princes are so prone to surround themselves. *There is not a gate or a sentinel in the whole place;* but the country people (and happy comfortable people they seem) come and go, and look about them as they please, under the very windows of the palace, with no other restraint upon them than their own sense of self-respect, and those habits of decorum which characterise the Germans.

It was stated that there would be at Coburg a grand re-union of royal personages—that not fewer than fifteen crowned heads would here meet Queen Victoria. At present, besides the members of the ducal house of Saxe Coburg, there are only the King and Queen of the Belgians, the Duchess of Kent, and the Prince of Leiningen, the half-brother of her Majesty Queen Victoria. The palace of Rosenau is occupied by the Queen and Prince Albert. The other royal personages, with their respective suites, stay at the town palace of the Duke.

Her Majesty has since her arrival rested after the fatigues of her incessant traveling. Beyond an occasional drive out in the neighbourhood, and through the town of Coburg, there has been no movement of the court.

As is usual on occasions like the present, interesting episodes and anecdotes, connected with the royal tour, begin to ooze through the press; and among the most indefatigable caterers in this line are the correspondents of the French journals. We find the following description of her Majesty at Bonn, in the *Constitutionnel*:—

Queen Victoria saluted the public with a great deal of grace; she wore a rose-coloured dress, and a black silk cloak. She had scarcely sat down when she opened a white gros de Naples parasol, with fringes of the same colour. The Queen of Prussia sat by her side, wearing a yellow bonnet of a most equivocal taste. The King stood up at a distance of five or six steps from Queen Victoria, to whom he did not address a single word during the whole of the time they remained on the balcony. Prince Albert, in an English Field-marshal's uniform, stood at a respectful distance of about two steps behind the King and Queen Victoria, in the attitude of a timid and well-bred young man, just on his preferment. Behind him was seated Lady Gainsborough, who, I am assured, is one of the most beautiful women in the three kingdoms.

A writer in the *Siècle* says:—

Amongst the surprises prepared for the Queen of England during her *sejour* at Brühl, the one most worthy of mention is the polite attention of the King of Prussia, in causing to be brought, from Rensberg, twenty young pupils of the military school, to perform the duties of pages to her Majesty. They were all habited in ancient costumes. Six young girls, of the

first families in the city, were also retained for the private service of the Queen. The apartments appropriated to her Britannic Majesty were furnished with the most profuse magnificence. The bed in the royal chamber covered a space of sixty square feet! The same writer says, that for the illumination of Cologne cathedral alone, the King gave the city 20,000 thalers, equal to 75,000 francs, or £3,000. The city could not afford to bear the expense itself, and so his Majesty was compelled to come to its assistance.

THE KING OF PRUSSIA'S TOAST.—The correspondent of the *Times* gives the following as the exact words in which the King of Prussia toasted Queen Victoria, at the banquet in the palace of Brühl, on the 12th instant: the writer, however, first making this explanation:—

It was formerly the custom of the German armies, after having won a battle, to fire, on the very field of battle, a round of all the artillery, as a proclamation of the victory. This was called "Victoria Schiessen." The custom has grown into desuetude; but the term remains, and the word "Victoria" is, therefore, in the German language and poetry especially, consecrated to victory, and associated with the idea of a song of triumph after battle. Indeed, the word is only used in Germany in this sense, except as the name of the goddess of victory."

This is the King's speech:—

Gentlemen, fill your glasses to the brim! There is a word which inspires with unspeakable delight every British and German heart. That word resounded once over a field of battle, after a fierce struggle, as the symbol of a brotherhood in arms, which had been blessed with success. This day that word resounds, after thirty years of peace, that happy fruit of the arduous work of those days, here, in the German lands, on the banks of the beautiful stream of the Rhine. That word is—"Victoria."

Gentlemen, take your glasses, and empty them to the last drop. The object of the toast is, "Her Majesty the Queen of Great Britain and Ireland. Long live Queen Victoria, and her most illustrious consort!"

This toast was observed to come rather sudden upon the French guests present, and will doubtless form a fruitful topic for the French anti-English party. In fact, they already complain that France has been studiously excluded from the hospitalities of the Rhine.

HER MAJESTY'S IMPRESSIONS OF THE RHINE are described by the courtly correspondent of the *Post*:—

Her Majesty's impression, on first viewing the banks of this noble river, seemed to be those of disappointment, and the scenery appeared to strike her as being inferior in grandeur to that which she had seen last autumn during her sojourn at Blair Athol. But as the vessel moved magnificently along, breasting the current of the exulting and bounding stream, the Sieben-Gebirge, with the castled crag of Drachenfels, and the 'wild rocks shaped as they had turrets been,' crowning the grey summits of the Stronberg, and Wolherberg and Hemmerich burst upon the view, her Majesty expressed her admiration and delight at the glorious spectacle in such glowing terms as showed her to he an ardent admirer of the beauties of nature. Each of the frequent feudal, but now chiefless, castles were pointed out and described to her Majesty; and, happily, only one shower, and that of short duration, marred the pleasure of the voyage, but neither the rain nor the strong wind drove her Majesty from the deck, where she remained under an awning, contemplating the diversified beauties of the scenery as the steamer opened upon each succeeding reach of the river.

NIGHT SCENE ON THE RHINE.—The correspondent of the *Morning Chronicle* mentions the following striking trait of the popular accomplishment in music. It occurred at Stolzenfels, when the people were waiting for the fireworks.

The silence did not last long. A deep manly voice on board the steamer in which I was took up the first notes of a German national air—the "Rhine Song"—and in an instant a rolling, pealing chorus of national music, beautifully sung in parts, was caught up, echoed from steamer to steamer in a massive, simple strain of harmony. The song would have told under any circumstances, but, sung where it was, by Germans, on the moonlit river, the pealing burden, which defies the French, and vows that 'they will never have the Rhine,' had naturally a most striking effect. The English Anthem and national song, "God save the Queen" and "Rule Britannia," followed, with other choral pieces.

The *Examiner* gives also one or two interesting particulars:—

Jules Janin recounts with great pleasure that Queen Victoria and Prince Albert, after the *fête*, set off arm in arm through the streets, in despite of the bad weather, to visit his old tutor, his college, and his friends. This was truly entering into the spirit of the country, and recalling to us an anecdote of the late lamented Duke of Orleans. He called one morning to see Ary Scheffer, the artist. On asking the porter if Scheffer was at home, the *janitor* replied, "You'll find him on the third story; and, since you are going up, will you be kind enough to take up, at the same time with yourself, this coat that I have been brushing for him?" The Prince walked up to Ary Scheffer with the latter's coat upon his arm. If our great people could but have the courage to keep, when at home, a fraction of the ease and *bonhommie* which they learn abroad, what an improvement it would be to our every-day, ay, and to our holiday life.

There cannot be a simpler or plainer person than the King of Prussia. He was quite perplexed what to do with all the people who came with the Queen. There were not waggons enough at Cologne to carry them to Brühl, and so Lord Aberdeen and a crowd of ministers and *aide-de-camps* were thrust into third-class carriages with gentlemen who had pipes as big as themselves. *Apropos* of pipes, the chief magistrate of Bonn, who led the great procession *in pontificalibus*, smoked his pipe as he proceeded, and therefore led the way in a cloud, quite like a fabulous personage. The Queen was highly amused at this civic Jupiter.

Stolzenfels is a poor little castle: that of a Vavasour, rather than of a sovereign—there was scarcely room. Indeed, there never was one large feudal fortress on the Rhine. The Queen of England and her court would have been nobly received at Berlin and Potsdam, or else in one of the imperial cities; whilst the Stolzenfels had all the inconvenience and scramble of a royal picnic. The only chateau of the region capable of receiving a multitude was that of Prince Metternich, a noble edifice, very like a poor-law union; but a visit to the arch-chancellor would have looked political, and invidious too, since Bieberich was unvisited, or Cassel, or any of the ducal palaces of the vicinity.

AN ILLUSTRATION OF LANDLORD TYRANNY.

SIR JAMES GRAHAM AGAIN.

At Carlisle assizes Sir James Graham, Bart, was defeated in an action brought against one of his tenants, Mr Tweddle, a farmer, whom he pursued for damages for breach of covenants. Now this farmer had received premiums at agricultural meetings—and from his landlord's own hand—for improvements on his farm; but having offended Sir James, *because he had entertained the liberal candidate at the last election, and had voted against his landlord's party*, an action was brought against him for a breach of unknown and impossible-to-be-performed covenants. It came out that the agreement, which was for a term of nineteen years, had been made between the father of the landlord and the father of the tenant, in respect of certain lands near a town; that these lands had been given up to the landlord for his convenience, and other lands assigned to the tenant; that the tenant was totally unaware of the existence of any written agreement; that he had cultivated his land according to the same course as the numerous other tenants of the same class manage theirs, with this difference, that he had bought considerable quantities of manure, and tilled his land in a superior manner; and that he had actually received a prize for the good management of this very land from the hands of the landlord himself, as president of a local agricultural society, on the recommendation of the landlord's steward, the vice-president of the society, founded upon the award of the society's judges, who were neighbouring farmers. This tenant was ultimately dispossessed of his farm, and subjected to the present action. What makes this particular case more striking is the fact that the landlord himself had actually changed his political opinions during his tenant's occupation; and thus it is clear that a tenant occupying land on the ordinary terms is required not only to agree with his landlord in politics at the time of entering upon his farm, but he must chop and change his opinions—or rather his votes, just as and when it may suit his landlord to remodel his own political creed.

This case (says the *League*) seems to be one which combines nearly all the evils to the farmer which we have so repeatedly pointed out as resulting from the most absurd stipulations which are usually inserted, as of course, in nine-tenths of the farming agreements and leases of this country; and when, in addition to such stipulations, the tenant holds from year to year—that is, at the caprice of his landlord, his condition is the most pitiable in which an industrious and respectable man can be placed. Yet are four-fifths of the farmers in this position.

GREAT PROTESTANT DEMONSTRATION AT LISBURN.

On Wednesday a very numerous meeting, for the avowed purpose of sympathising with James Watson, Esq., of Brookhill, on his late dismissal from the magistracy and deputy-lieutenancy of the county Antrim, was held in a field called "School-hill," adjacent to Lisburn. Between 160 and 170 lodges were present, altogether 13,000 persons. Including the Marquis and Countess of Downshire, Mr Watson, the Earl and Countess of Annesley, Colonel Verner, several magistrates, and many clergymen. The Marquis of Downshire presided. He defied the government. The Dean of Dromore also denounced the conduct of the government in removing Mr Watson, as a tyrannical interference with the right of private judgment. The crowd gave vent to such exclamations towards them as "the villains," "Judas," "We'll stand to the Queen as long as she is a Protestant, but no longer." Colonel Verner said, the cry was "no surrender," and so it should be while he had a voice or arm to vindicate it [a hurricane of cheers]. The speakers among the clergy were especially violent. Mr Hudson said, "The Orange lion had risen in his might [loud cheers]. He stood beside the crown, where he had ever stood [cheers]. His roar was heard abroad [loud cheers]—his mane was erect [loud cheers]—and Repeal, Popery, and Peelery were already crouching before him [cheers]." Mr R. Dolling concluded a violent address by calling for three groans for traitor Peel. Mr Leslie quoted St Paul to show that he feared that they were going to pension those "infernal priests" [loud cheers]. Their cry was, "More money—more priests" [groans]. He could tell them that Sir Robert Peel told a lie [cheers], when he said that the priests were ill-fed and slept three in a bed [cheers and laughter]. They had plenty of beef and plenty of mutton—they wore long gaiters and black coats—they were crammed full of good things, and all the difference was, that on Fridays, instead of beef and mutton, they were crammed with good fish [cheers and laughter]. They were told, indeed, that this was a legacy of Mr Pitt's. Who the devil was Mr Pitt? ["Hear!" cheers and laughter.] Christians don't know his name. It was not to be found in the book of life. Who was he, to leave them a legacy [cheers]? Let him be fifty Pitts—ay, or the bottomless pit [cheers]—he had no right to do any such thing [laughter]. An address to her Majesty to command that Mr Watson may be restored to the office of Deputy Lieutenant, and reinstated as justice of the peace of the county of Antrim, was agreed to.

INSURRECTION AT MADRID.

The *Journal des Debats* of Sunday publishes the following intelligence from Madrid of the 19th inst., received on Saturday by the French government:—

"The Minister of Finance having refused to accede to the wishes of the merchants of Madrid, who had demanded some modification in the new tributary system, a great agitation ensued; numerous groups assembled in the streets and public squares; all the shops were immediately closed, and the authorities were obliged to call out the troops of the garrison. Several charges of cavalry and a discharge of musketry had been necessary to disperse the crowd. Two persons were said to have been killed, and two officers and a sergeant had been dangerously wounded.

"When the courier left Madrid the entire garrison was under arms, and all the military posts had been doubled. Considerable reinforcements had arrived from Guadalajara and Cuenca, and the Captain General had been vested with extraordinary powers by the ministers present in Madrid. He was even authorised to declare that capital in a state of siege, should circumstances require it. The city was tranquil, although still slightly agitated. The political chief had published a most energetic proclamation, and ordered the shops to be re-opened under the severest penalties. Several shopkeepers who disobeyed the order had been arrested."

COLLIERY EXPLOSIONS AND LOSS OF LIFE.

A dreadful coal-pit explosion, the result of a boy's culpable temerity, has occurred in Tividale mine, near Dudley. The boy went with a lighted candle to a part of the mine where he should not have ventured with an unprotected light. Twenty persons who were in the pit were all injured, and four died soon after they were taken home; while the rest are in a precarious state.

THIRTY-EIGHT LIVES LOST AT JARROW.

On Thursday afternoon a colliery accident of an appalling description took place at Jarrow colliery, on the Durham side of the Tyne, near South Shields. About half-past four an explosion of fire-damp occurred in the lower seam of the pit. Nearly one hundred men were in the pit at the time, and one-half of them, being near the pit's mouth, readily escaped. Thirty-five were in the lower seam, and these met with instantaneous death, and no attempt can be made to recover their bodies for several days. Other fourteen, it is ascertained, were in a part of the pit where the explosion must have been equally fatal. The Davy lamp and candles were used by the miners. The pitmen made almost superhuman exertions to rescue their fellow-men, and one noble-minded fellow, an overman named Jacob Defty, lost his life from the after damp, in attempting to save the lives, or to extricate the bodies, of his comrades.

A letter, dated Saturday night, says, "The excitement prevailing here to-day has been greater than at any previous period since the explosion. The bodies of about thirty of the sufferers were this afternoon consigned to the grave in Jarrow churchyard, the funeral being witnessed by upwards of 3,000 spectators, many of whom had come from a considerable distance. Unremitting exertions have been made by relays of men from the various colleries in the district, directed by many of the principal viewers, who relieved each other at intervals, to penetrate the workings of the mine in quest of the bodies of the sufferers. Sixteen had been recovered last night, and fifteen others were found to-day, all sadly mutilated by the explosion. Indeed, many were so much disfigured that it was impossible to identify them." There are yet four bodies in the bowels of the earth. There have been thirty-eight lives lost by this explosion; thirty-four in the Low main, and four in the Bensham seam. An inquest was commenced on Saturday, but adjourned to Monday.

THE NEW IRISH COLLEGES.—Memorials in favour of the appointment of Dr Thomson, formerly of Belfast Institution, and at present professor of mathematics in the Glasgow University, and of Dr Cook to the office of president of the new college in Belfast, has been in course of signature in town during the last week.—*Belfast Banner.*

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM IN SWEDEN.—By a resolution of the Swedish Storthing, sanctioned by the King, relative to the professors of the Christian religion out of the pale of the established church, they are allowed the free exercise of their religion, and the right to form separate communities; also, that a person may leave the established church to join such a community when above nineteen years of age.

THE CORN LAWS.—Many persons suppose that Sir R. Peel will submit his final arrangement to parliament early in the next session, and that that arrangement will be gradually diminishing duty, which, in a few years, will leave foreign competition in the supply of this country with corn perfectly free and open, or only checked by a small impost for the sake of revenue. There is a general impression that another session cannot pass away, leaving the question in its present position.—*Morning Post.*

PROGRESS OF SCIENCE.—Science is generally represented with a lighted torch in her hand. This will account for some of the atrocities that have lately followed from the so-called scientific expedition of the French into the interior of Algiers.—*Punch.*

DEGREE OF D.D.—At the annual opening of the New York University, on the 2nd ult., the degree of Doctor in Divinity was conferred on the Rev. Henry Grey of this city.—*Scotsman.*

Postscript.

Wednesday, August 27th.

SOUTHWARK ELECTION.

Mr Miall's reception at the Bridge House hotel, last night, was one of the most enthusiastic and numerously-attended demonstrations we ever witnessed. The large room of the hotel was filled with a most attentive and respectable audience. It is evident that Mr Miall has grown daily in the confidence and esteem of the inhabitants and electors of Southwark, and that he is now decidedly the *favourite*. At first, his band of coadjutors was comparatively small; but last night there was not wanting an array of local influence and intelligence unrivaled by either of his competitors. A reference to the list of speakers will be a sufficient proof of this. It was stated by the Chairman that, in addition to the valuable services they had previously obtained, they were now so fortunate as to have the assistance of Mr Croucher, the eminent parliamentary agent.

From what we have gathered of the feeling of the electors of Southwark, we should unhesitatingly say that Mr Miall's return was certain, were there not too many examples of the fallacy of trusting to appearances. We noticed many gentlemen of the Dissenting body, as the most hearty applauders of Mr Miall's sentiments last night, who at his first appearance looked unfavourably upon his cause, and not a few who were originally supporters of Sir W. Molesworth. We regret that we are compelled, by a want of time and space, to present the subjoined report of the proceedings in an abridged form.

The seventh meeting of Mr Miall and the electors of Southwark, will take place to-night, at the Ship Tavern, Long lane, Bermondsey.

We perceive that the *Chronicle*, of this morning, contains an article similar in effect to one in the same journal of Saturday, but somewhat more bitter, as well as more apprehensive, on the serious calamities which must accrue from this division of the *Liberal* interests, and averring, "that if Mr Miall is permitted to proceed as he has begun, Southwark, too, may be betrayed into the hands of the enemy." It advises the Liberal electors to "determine amongst themselves to have one or other of the Liberal candidates who are before them, and, having once made a choice, let them consider the refusal of the person rejected to retire, as a proof that he is the ally and supporter of the Tory party."

MEETING OF MR MIALL'S FRIENDS.

(From the *Times*.)

Yesterday evening a meeting of the supporters of Mr Miall was held at the Bridge-house hotel, and was most numerously attended.

Mr A. Pellatt, having been called to the chair, briefly addressed the meeting, and congratulated them on the advancing prospects of the cause, in addition to which they had been able to obtain the valuable co-operation of that excellent leader and combatant in electioneering matters, Mr Croucher [hear].

Mr Miall then presented himself, and was received with most tremendous cheers, at the conclusion of which he said that this was no ordinary contest on which they had now entered.

Had he thought it a mere contest between party and party he would not now have been before them [hear]. The object of his battle was not for names—not for persons—not for places. It was not for the present so much as the future; not for Southwark alone, but for the whole empire [hear]. There were certain grand points which they held dear, as forming the foundation of religious liberty, of social peace and of civil freedom, which had been wantonly trampled on by both the great political parties in the state [hear, hear, hear]. Their business was not to decide between Herod and Pontius Pilate [a laugh, and "hear"], now unfortunately agreed. For many ages the ruling powers of the state had deemed it incumbent and imperative on them to take care of the religious interests of the people. They had so acted professedly with parental solicitude, and had not only appointed instructors for the people, but had pointed out what they were to be taught [hear]. This course had exercised a baneful influence, not only on religious liberty, but also on civil freedom [hear, hear]. He believed that if Christianity had been free, unshackled, unfettered, the people of Great Britain would have been in the enjoyment of the highest forms of civil freedom [hear, hear]. He appealed to the Dissenters to come forward, and be consistent. He asked nothing from them but to act up to their pledges; that they should fulfil the promises made in solemn resolutions recorded at public meetings which had been held in the borough. If they did not, the legislature would regard their meetings as farces, and whisper in their clubs that they (the Dissenters) were "hypocritical humbugs" [great cheering]. After referring to and vindicating his political principles in general, Mr Miall said, he knew it had been whispered about to secure votes for another candidate that he (Mr Miall) intended only to make a "demonstration," and to retire before or on the day of nomination. He had no such intention. He intended to put the sincerity of the Southwark Dissenters to the test [hear]. He would tell them, not tauntingly, but in the sober solemnity of determination, that if they were not honest, the country should know of it [hear, hear]. They had enunciated a principle; let them now act up to it. If Southwark were lost it would be not because the Dissenters were weak, but because they were false. Nothing should induce him to forego his determination [cheers]. He had heard that a very worthy and revered friend of his had said he would support Sir W. Molesworth because the chance of Mr Miall's return was so hopeless. He (Mr Miall) was surprised to hear such a doctrine coming from one who was in the habit of preaching the doctrine of faith [hear]. But he would teach them a lesson—a way to obtain success—and that was by deserving it. The hon. gentleman concluded by saying he had put himself forward for no personal object, and, if any other candidate could be brought forward to support the same grand principles as he did, he (Mr Miall) would not hesitate to retire. Mr Miall sat down amidst loud and long-continued cheering.

R. Fenning, Esq., of Fenning's wharf, moved, and J. Stainburn, Esq., seconded, a resolution in support of Mr Miall.

Mr J. Lyon, minister of Union chapel, also addressed the meeting in support of the resolution, which was put and carried, as the chairman stated, "with only seven dissentients, out of a meeting comprising 700 individuals."

Dr Price then addressed the meeting in an able speech, and took occasion to allude to a statement in the *Morning Chronicle*, which was calculated to create a very unfavourable impression on the minds of its readers towards this cause. It represented Mr John Brown to have subscribed to a resolution at a public meeting on behalf of Sir William Molesworth. That gentleman not being described in the article, it might be imagined, that Mr John Brown, of Lombard street and Brixton hill, were intended, and if so, had created an erroneous belief.

The Chairman then called Mr John Brown, of Lombard street (who had been ascertained to be present), to the table, and in reply to his questions, that gentleman denied having been at a public meeting in this election before the present one. The statement could not, therefore, be made to have reference to him.

Thanks were voted to the chairman, and the assemblage dispersed at half-past 9 o'clock, after giving three cheers for Mr Miall's success.

We have received a copy of an able address to the electors of Southwark, signed by W. Lovett, on behalf of the National Association, High Holborn, calling upon them to give their support to Mr Miall, but have not space for its insertion in this week's number.

MEETING OF SIR W. MOLESWORTH'S FRIENDS.

Sir W. Molesworth met about 200 of his supporters last night, at the Jamaica Tavern, Bermondsey. Captain Barnard presided. His speech was, for the most part, a vindication of his views regarding Maynooth, and of his political consistency. He repeated the statements he had made on former occasions of the grounds on which he supported the Maynooth grant, and declared his opinions in favour of the appropriation of church revenues to other than ecclesiastical purposes, of free trade, the abolition of the corn laws, an extension of the suffrage, vote by ballot, the abolition of a property qualification for members of parliament, and triennial parliaments; and concluded by stating, that if a majority of his constituents should have any reason to be dissatisfied with his political conduct, and should call upon him to resign, he would readily comply with their request ["hear, hear," and cheers].

Mr Maddox moved a resolution declaring the statement of Sir W. Molesworth to be highly satisfactory to the meeting, expressing their opinion that Sir William was fit and proper person to represent the borough in parliament, and pledging themselves to use all the exertions in their power to promote his return. Mr Maddox said he was a personal friend of Mr Miall, but he must admit that he saw no chance of that gentleman's return [cheers and some hissing]. The electors of Southwark had fought a great battle when Mr Walter was candidate for the borough, and he hoped they would not neglect their duty on this occasion, but that they would unite in endeavouring to prevent the return of a Tory [cries of "You're a turncoat." "What made you support Maynooth?" hissing and cheers].

Mr Vously, in seconding the resolution, said, that Mr Miall ought to follow the example of the late member, Mr Wood, at the last election, who, when it was supposed that a more influential candidate, in the person of Mr D. W. Harvey, would stand, at once consented to resign in his favour [hear, hear]. The resolution was then put and carried.

Her Majesty's Visit to Germany.—The royal visitors continued at Coburg, and their presence is made the occasion of a general holiday all the country round. On Thursday the Queen held a levée at the palace in Coburg. Friday was pleasant, the sun warm and genial, and the royal party breakfasted *al fresco*, amid the parterres and rose bowers which cluster round the Duke's summer palace. The principal business of the day was a species of juvenile festival—a procession of the children attended the different schools in Coburg, which annually takes place upon the 22nd of August. After describing the *fete* the papers say, "And then came the dinner in the two pavilions. Quite open they were. The people stood round not ten yards off, respectful, quiet, and orderly. It was quite a new sight, so many Kings and Queens eating their dinners in the most ordinary mortal fashion, acutally allowing the world to see them using spoons and forks very much as other people do, while not a wall, not even a shred of canvas, concealed them from the masses of the peasantry and townsfolks around." Meanwhile, the children were making merry in dancing and romping. "The glee of the whole affair at length got quite infectious, and presently the whole royal party got up and mingled with the children—kings and queens quite happy among the romping gambols of the schoolboys. Our own Queen looked really delighted, while the whole party overwhelmed the happy children, as each flying group passed them, with showers of *bons-bons* and comfitures. The whole affair was quite *couleur de rose*, and even the Earl of Aberdeen relaxed the official awfulness of his diplomatic brow, and walked smilingly about, like a good-natured dominie coaxed into holiday giving." The royal party lingered long upon the ground, and when they departed for the "Residence," the children sung the national anthem with good effect. There was to be a ball in the evening.

Insurrection at Madrid.—By the last accounts, the riot does not appear to have been so serious as at first represented, but great apprehensions were entertained for the following day. The general opinion appears to be that the Government will be able to keep down the movement, but that it will be obliged to abandon M. Mon's new taxes, which appear to fall very heavily upon the mercantile classes. By the last accounts, Madrid was tolerably quiet. The citizens, however, still refused to open their shops. Seventy persons had been arrested, including several merchants, and a permanent court had been established in the Post office for the trial of prisoners.

The Levant.—Letters from Constantinople describe several provinces of that empire as in a very disturbed state. In Upper Albania the insurrection has been in some measure checked; but in the province of Van, and in the neighbourhood of Bagdad, serious disturbances have taken place. Asia Minor is at the present moment suffering all the horrors of a famine. The accounts received by Constantinople give hopes thar the Syrian disturbances will be at length put down. The Porte has sent to the representatives of the five powers a long note on the affairs of that country, in which he states that he is about to send the ministry of foreign affairs into Syria, to arrange the disputes.

The 122nd musical festival of Worcester, Hereford, and Gloucester, for the benefit of the poor clergy of those dioceses, and their widows and orphans, commenced on Tuesday, and will be continued to-day and to-morrow.

Linlithgowshire Election.—The election of a member of parliament to represent the county of Linlithgow, in the room of the Hon. Charles Hope, appointed Governor of the Isle of Man, took place on Friday at Linlithgow. Mr Baillie, jun., of Polkemmet, was the only candidate, and the election in consequence did not excite much interest. Colonel Ferrier Hamilton, of Westport, nominated him, and Mr Durham Weir, younger, of Boghead, seconded the nomination. The Sheriff declared Mr Baillie duly elected.

Belfast Election.—At Belfast, on Wednesday, Lord John Chichester was elected member for that borough, in the room of Sir James Emerson Tennent, without opposition. Lord John, though brother to the Liberal Marquis of Donegal, is a Tory, and is pledged to vote for a repeal of the Maynooth grant. He was prevented by illness from being present at the election.

Kirkcudbrightshire Election.—The nomination of candidates took place on Friday, Mr Maitland, the Liberal candidate, avowed himself a supporter of Mr Maxwell, the Roman Catholic candidate who had retired, of Roman Catholic emancipation, the Maynooth endowment, and the New Colleges bill. Colonel M'Douall, the Tory, said that he came forward on "Protestant principles," and on principles of protection for agriculture, especially upholding the present corn law. The show of hands was in favour of Mr Maitland, and a poll was demanded on behalf of his opponent. It was taken on Monday and Tuesday, and at the close the numbers were—for Maitland, 486; M'Douall, 342: majority, 142. A large number of the constituency, dissatisfied with Mr Maitland's Maynooth declaration, did not vote at all. Only 830 out of 1344 electors recorded their votes.

Southwark and Sunderland Elections.—A special meeting of the Leicester Complete Suffrage association was holden at the Town hall, on Tuesday evening—Mr J. P. Mursell, minister, in the chair—when it was unanimously resolved:—"That this Association warmly sympathise with Col. Perronet Thompson under his defeat at Sunderland, occasioned as that and previous discomfitures in other towns have been, by the hostility of professing Liberals, who are the bitter foes of thorough reform and popular rights. That this Association regret the loss which the people of Sunderland and those of the United Kingdom have sustained by the rejection of so valuable a candidate, and regard the circumstance as a strong argument for a full extension of the elective franchise. That this Association observe with much satisfaction the appearance of Mr Miall as a candidate for Southwark, and cordially wish him success; at the same time recommending a similar course in other boroughs, without regard to the probabilities of temporary defeat."

CORN MARKET. Mark Lane. This Day.

—	Wheat	Barley	Oats	Beans	Peas	Flour
English ..	2310	20	200			3370
Scotch....						
Irish			2770			
Foreign ..	2340		5530			

Market dull; no alteration in value.

Terms for advertising in the *Nonconformist*.
For 7 lines....5s. 0d. | For 10 lines....6s. 0d.
For every additional line..... 4d.
*** Advertisements from the country must be accompanied by a post-office order, or reference for payment in London.

The Nonconformist.

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 27, 1845.

WE beg to repeat our notice of last week. If any persons willing to unite themselves to an anti-state-church electoral club, will communicate to us their names and addresses, we will undertake to transmit to some one of them in each borough a list of the names given in from that borough, and he will be able at once to convene them for instant action. We will take care that the party to whom we give up our list shall, in every case be one in whom we have reason to place implicit confidence.

SUMMARY.

WITH the return of fine weather, the fears entertained of a failure in the crops have begun to subside. The past week has been all that could be desired for the ripening and ingathering of the harvest. The public is beginning to recover slowly from its paroxysm of alarm. "During the last few days," to use the language of the *Spectator*, "it has been laid out to dry in the sun, and as it warms in the rays, it begins to admit that Englishmen and English crops, like English frogs, take a great deal of drowning." Indeed, those who are learned in these matters affirm that, should the weather continue fine, the wheat crop, although irreparably deteriorated in quality, will yet be an average yield; the breadth of land under cultivation having been greater this year than was ever before known. Be this as it may, the recent panic has done not a little to hasten the repeal of the obnoxious corn monopoly. When all parties, even those most interested in its continuance, agree in the opinion that the corn laws are dependent upon the weather for their continuance, we have not only a certain indication of their instability, but of the impossibility of permanently maintaining them. The fine-weather minister has yet to subject his patch-work measures of commercial legislation to the trial of a bad harvest. Who believes that they will pass through the ordeal uninjured? Not even his own supporters. The courtly organ of the fashionable world and landed interest asserts—with a whine of despair and malice, which, if not genuine, is well feigned—that the Prime Minister is prepared to do away with the sliding scale next session, and propose a gradual diminishing duty on Lord John Russell's plan. This is somewhat early to announce the future policy of a minister who is notorious for keeping his own counsel to the last moment; but it serves to show the current of public opinion.

The news of the week, with the exception of the Southwark election, requires but a passing notice. Unhappily, its more prominent features are of a disagreeable character. A fresh batch of railway accidents, providentially accompanied with little loss of life, but much damage to property, and two dreadful colliery explosions, involving the loss of upwards of fifty lives, are fresh illustrations of the criminal indifference evinced by those whose place it is to take proper precautions against such events, to the sacrifice of human life. Nor is it only criminal, but also short-sighted and foolish; for every such event only hastens the day when government will think itself compelled to interfere, and take the management of railways, at all events, into their own hands. It will be then too late for railway companies to repent of their former disregard of the public interests. The Orange party in Ireland still maintain their attitude of defiance towards government; and, although their demonstrations are marked with much grotesque absurdity and downright raving, they are supported by almost the whole Protestant population, and by a large and influential section of the Protestant aristocracy. Will ministers dare to deal with them as with the Repealers? or have they prepared a message of peace, in the shape of a bribe, for Protestant Ulster? A few days will throw further light on their intentions.

The foreign intelligence of the week is of an unusually interesting character. While her Majesty is sojourning in one portion of the German empire, other portions are agitated with a new movement, which has already assumed the complexion of a second reformation. Throughout the German states, men are everywhere casting off the degrading superstitions of Rome, at the call of Johanne Ronge and other reformers, and forming new religious communities. An attempt to interfere with the liberty of conscience, in connexion with the new movement, has brought the Saxon government—the rigid friend of Rome—into collision with its Protestant subjects. Blood has been wantonly shed by the myrmidons of authority, and the people of Leipsic and their sovereign are mutually embittered against each other. The King of Prussia and the petty German potentates have taken the alarm, and have resolved on the mad attempt to put a stop to the further progress of the new movement—to coerce the religious convictions of a whole people. The Protestants of this country, and especially the opponents of all church establishments, will watch the new ecclesiastical reform with peculiar interest. We have doubtless yet seen but the first scene of a new drama in the world's history, but we are justified in indulging a belief that the cause of civil as well as religious freedom will be thereby indefinitely promoted.

In other parts of Europe the cause of despotism would appear to be triumphant. Spain has allowed a military brigand to divest her, almost without a regret, of the few liberties which successive revolutions had left her. The press has been deprived of its liberty, the property of the Romish church restored, and the liberty of the subject curtailed and trampled upon in every conceivable way. Emboldened by his success, Narvaez has promulgated a new system of taxation on house property, assessed at 14 per cent on rent. The scheme excites the most determined opposition; and, in Madrid, has led to riot and bloodshed. The citizens refuse to open their shops; a large number have been imprisoned, and are to be *shot* for their contumacy. In fact, the city is in such a state that Narvaez, despite the support of a large military force, will, probably, be obliged to repeal the obnoxious law. From Greece, we learn that the new constitution has been virtually annulled by Coletti, under the sanction of King Otho. In order to insure the supremacy of the former, the Greek senate has been swamped by the creation of sixteen new peers, all creatures of Coletti. Metaxa had resigned, and the new dictator is preparing to take revenge on *all* the leading men concerned in the revolution of September, which established the constitution. It is plain that a new revolution is impending, and equally evident that it will be followed by the dethronement of the incapable and arbitrary monarch.

THE SOUTHWARK ELECTION.

TIME will soon show how this contest will terminate—and will put to the proof the mettle of hundreds who, a few months back, were forward and loud in professing their determination to use their electoral power in support of their principles. The whole empire will learn, in a few days, at what value to rate Dissenting agitation—whether it means anything—whether it ever was designed to end in anything but noise and smoke. Statesmen will look at the result of the Southwark election, and act accordingly.

We are ourselves too closely identified with the contest to allow of our speaking all that it is in our heart to utter. To us, the matter has assumed an aspect of such grave importance, that we cannot, if we would, employ ourselves in parrying the thrusts of open foes, or in rebuking the moral cowardice of professed friends. We shall leave all that is open to animadversion, therefore, in individual conduct, or in the comments of the press, to be dealt with by our contemporaries. Our anxieties are, for the present, absorbed in one question—how best the ecclesiastical policy, the germs of which were planted last session, and which state exigencies must needs force into full-leaved expansion, may be most surely defeated, by means of the pending struggle in the borough of Southwark. This appears to us to be *the* question of the day, upon the right settlement of which, consequences too vast and remote for adequate appreciation are immediately dependent.

Under the guise of promoting what is called "religious equality," the two political parties at present sharing between them the responsibilities of government, have evinced a foregone purpose of availing themselves, for their own selfish ends, of that influence which religious teachers exert upon the minds of the taught, and of making it a main element in ruling the people. Indifferentism to creeds is to be exhibited in high places with all the sanctions which law can throw around it. Faith, not in the articles in which it may chance to embody itself, but in its very substance and vitality, is to be sapped, if possible, in order that Christianity may be degraded into the convenient tool of aristocratic rulers. A broader purchase-ground is required for the efforts of men in power, and of men expecting it, to enable them to uphold oppressive institutions against the rising tide of modern intelligence; and it can be found only in that system which professedly regards all truth as unimportant, and converts all teachers of spiritual dogmas into the hired slaves of the ruling class. The success of this scheme will be fatal, not to this or that particular form of religion, but to the life and power of religion in any form. It will act as an universal blight. It will wither into a death-like formality every branch and twig in which love of God's truth has hitherto unfolded itself. It will eat out whatever there is of energy and heart in British character. It will make us a nation of cold, hard-headed, calculating infidels.

That this plan will be tried, if the little seed of the Maynooth Endowment bill is permitted to quicken and to ripen, no Protestant Dissenter laying claim to intelligence can doubt—much less can he hesitate to pronounce what will be its bitter fruit if it do ripen. The evil and the danger to both the civil and the spiritual interests of our fellow-countrymen, with which the new ecclesiastical policy of government is fraught, have constituted the theme of much spirit-stirring eloquence, within the last few months; and one might reasonably have imagined that men of the smallest heart, and especially that religious instructors having the smallest care for for consistency, would esteem the paltry distinctions of political party infinitely little in comparison with this germinating mischief—and that, without standing upon a nice calculation of chances, they would have risen up to grapple with a principle, the triumph of which must, in their view, entail frightful consequences upon the subjects of the realm. This is obviously their mission. To this high duty they have been called, and they once promised to respond. None can tell what may be the consequences poised upon their fidelity. Certain, however, it is, in this, as in other cases, that neglect of the solemn trust committed to them, even if it do not eventually injure that, will ruin themselves. Farewell, in such case, to their self-respect, their peace, their moral power! Conscience and posterity will alike reproach them as traitors and as dastards; and the very men whose designs they promote will despise them as tinselled rottenness.

Well! an opportunity has unexpectedly presented itself in Southwark, for Dissenters to commence, in earnest, the discharge of their mission. As if expressly designed with a view to test their sincerity, and to give meaning and point to all their former utterances, a vacancy has occurred in that borough, and a candidate has been put forward, offering to the electors a mode for the constitutional expression of their will upon this question. There is this peculiarity in the case, and it deserves to be known. If Southwark be lost to Dissenters and to the cause to which they pledged themselves with such seeming determination, it will be lost, not because they attached exclusive importance to the matter most vitally interesting to them, but because they attached to it no importance at all. Other parties, comparatively careless about Maynooth, are ready to join them and march forward with them to certain victory. Let it go forth, therefore, to the world, that it is not because they cannot, but because they *will* not, snatch a triumph from their enemies, that the way is opened for their defeat. The wavering is not in their allies, but in themselves. They have but to act out their past pledges, and their game is sure. The chances, about which some men talk, as though faith were an idle fancy, and duty a mere speculation, are in their own hands. It is for them to say, in a manner which legislators can understand, whether the Maynooth policy is to develope itself in the endowment of the Irish Roman Catholic priesthood, or whether the pernicious principle it embodies shall be crushed in the egg. The "No" or the "Yes," given at the Southwark election, in this matter, will be the "No" or the "Yes" of avowed, and, until lately, loud-speaking Nonconformists. If their answer to government be such as their brethren throughout the country will deplore, that answer will prove, not their weakness, but their treachery. The alternative before them is this—to be triumphant, or to exhibit themselves as false.

Haste and inconsiderateness, we are aware, have placed many of them in an embarrassing position—and an overstrained sense of honour may urge them to the fulfilment of promises which they are now convinced ought never to have been given. We beg such to reflect, whether their franchise is not held by them in trust for the country—and whether faithfulness to it is not their paramount duty. Ought their original indiscretion to be visited upon themselves, or upon the empire? Is there no obligation to keep faith in force, but such as respects this or that candidate? Is it right to peril a great cause, because they have indiscreetly promised to do so? True manliness, in such a dilemma, will frankly confess its first mistake, and, having done so, discharge its duty. The course, we are aware, will lay those who pursue it bare to harsh reflections and imputations. Be it so! These are the penalties to be endured for the primary offence. But that it is the right course, we think few men of conscience will deny. In some positions, we cannot be more false than when we are most literally true.

Personally careless about the result of this struggle, we are yet deeply anxious for the honour of Dissenters, and, above all, for the defeat of that insidious scheme of policy, which, if allowed to take root, will split society into pieces. Another such opportunity as the present may never again occur. Such vantage ground we may never again be allowed to occupy. A weightier responsibility than that which now rests upon Southwark, it is impossible to imagine. The contest will exert a

wide influence upon other constituencies for weal or for woe. In the name, therefore, of all the great interests, civil and religious, endangered by the purposes of men in power — in the name of justice, of liberty, of humanity, of God's truth, we conjure the Nonconformists of South wark to stand by their principles, and, in the coming election, to deliver an unflinching testimony on their behalf. Let them quit themselves in the spirit of their renowned ancestors! There is time for the correction of any mistakes into which they may have fallen. They may yet achieve a triumph to which their children will look back with pride and gratitude. Noble principles, consistency, character, honour — all that "good men and true" have been accustomed to prize—are at stake. As they estimate these, so let them give their vote!

CORRECTIONS AND EXPLANATIONS.

THE abbreviated outlines which have appeared in the daily papers of the speeches delivered by the Anti-state-church candidate for Southwark have been drawn up, for the most part, with remarkable fairness. In some instances, indeed, the drift of an argument has been mistaken, the point of an expression has been lost, or the breadth of an appeal has been narrowed. This was to have been expected; for no man in his senses could look for a full and adequate report, day by day, of long speeches to electors. Whilst, however, we pay a cheerful tribute to the ability and impartiality with which the task of reporting has been performed throughout this contest, we avail ourselves of the present opportunity of observing that we really cannot go bail for all the language put into the mouth of the candidate to whom we refer. A letter appears in another part of our paper, addressed to the editor of the *Times*, and courteously inserted in that journal, correcting one error of some importance. It would be silly, on our parts, to multiply corrections. But we must protest against Mr Miall being supposed to be so utterly ignorant of facts, as to illustrate the power of the Voluntary principle by a reference to "the splendid hierarchical establishment maintained by it in *Scotland*." Presbyterian Scotland! what will your hatred of "black prelacy" say to this? The allusion, it need scarcely be said, was to Ireland, and was intended to furnish an answer to the honourable member for Edinburgh, who, whilst he commended the Voluntary principle in the abstract, asserted its inapplicability in the case of Ireland, on account of the poverty of her population.

The same candidate has been charged with an uncalled-for, unkind, and splenetic attack upon the League. How stands the case? It is well known that in his capacity as editor of this journal, he has freely commented, usually to his own hurt, upon the proceedings of that body. As a candidate, however, for the representation of Southwark, it was no part of his duty to criticise their conduct, nor, in all probability, would he have done so, but for an attack upon him in the *Morning Advertiser*, as a well-known enemy to the League. This having appeared, he was bound, in justice to himself, to explain the grounds upon which alone any such imputation could be made to rest. For our own part, we have more than once attempted to enforce the desirableness of a thoroughly good understanding between the leaders of the three great movements of the day, for commercial, organic, and ecclesiastical change. Sunderland presented a fair occasion for this union of forces—and we are bound to say that the League embraced it. Southwark presented another—and the responsibility of having seemingly introduced irrritation in the place of co-operation, rests with the journal which denounced the Nonconformist candidate as unworthy of support because hostile to the League. The assault was an unwise one, to say the least of it. The writer of the two articles to which we refer probably knew—and if he did not, he wrote in ignorance of what he should have made himself acquainted with—that in the event of Mr Miall's return to parliament, his vote and efforts might be as safely relied upon, for all the objects which free traders have at heart, as those of either of the other candidates. Assuredly, they can lose nothing by his success.

Our readers will, we hope, pardon these explanations—and appreciate the delicacy of our position. We could not thrust these matters upon the notice of the daily journals, and hence, have reluctantly availed ourselves of this *medium* for the correction of mistakes. If the Southwark election should lead to a change in the electoral policy of earnest-hearted reformers, it will have answered the main design anticipated from it.

TEN MEN belonging to the Red Rover fishing boat were wrecked off the old harbour, Dunbar, in the breakers, on Wednesday, and all of them perished.

BREACH OF PROMISE.—At Liverpool, on Wednesday, a breach of promise of marriage case was quietly settled, to the great disappointment of a crowded court, including a large proportion of ladies. It is said that the amount of damages agreed upon was £4,000!

REPRESENTATION OF SOUTHWARK.

Since our last number, meetings have been held almost every evening, by the several candidates for the representation of Southwark. Mr Miall met his supporters in different parts of the borough on Wednesday, Thursday, and Saturday; Sir W. Molesworth on Thursday, Friday, and Monday. Mr Pilcher has had but one meeting, and the attendance of his supporters, on that occasion, was so meagre that they were almost outvoted by the friends of the other two candidates. In fact, it is very evident, from the indefiniteness of his political creed, combined with other causes, that gentleman is far from uniting the whole of the Conservative electors in his favour. There has been some talk of bringing forward a candidate of more decided Tory principles, but the rumour has not yet become a matter of fact. By this constant agitation the borough has been kept in a state of excitement unequaled of late, unless in the case of the Sunderland election, while the absence of other exciting political topics at the present time, the publicity given to the meetings and speeches of the opposing candidates, through the columns of the daily journals—and the fact of this having been the first contest in which the voluntary principle, in all its integrity, has been brought prominently forward as a *sine qua non* for senatorial fitness, have combined to invest this election with an interest which has been felt in but few events of a like nature, for some time past.

MEETINGS OF MR MIALL'S FRIENDS.

On Wednesday night, a meeting was held at the Working Men's Chapel, Dockhead, Bermondsey, to hear from Mr E. Miall a declaration of his principles.

J. M. WEBB, Esq., was called to the chair, and briefly introduced the business of the meeting.

Mr MIALL, on this occasion, in a great measure, went over the same ground as before, touching on the Maynooth question, the voluntary system, complete suffrage, and the corn-laws. While on the latter subject he complained of the article on the election, which appeared in the *Advertiser* of the previous day, which he said misrepresented his views respecting the League. He neither differed with the principles of the League, nor its machinery. He admired the energy of its members, and the great good they had accomplished in disseminating good economical principles. The League had done much good to the cause of Free Trade, and had diffused information amongst the people upon this subject, such as could have been communicated by no other instrumentality; but the League had allied itself with men who were looked upon as not altogether sincere in their profession of free-trade principles, but whose object was the aggrandisement of their party. He regretted the connexion between the League and the Whig party, and condemned the conduct of the League at Manchester, in exerting their influence in favour of a member of the aristocracy, just converted from Toryism—a Suffolk squire, with a large estate, instead of the author of the corn-law catechism [hear, hear]. The League had also given their support to Mr Shafto Adair, at Cambridge—a man who, two years ago, had objected to Lord J. Russell's proposal of an 8s. fixed duty, as not being sufficient protection to the agriculturists. It would have been far better had the League shown themselves disposed to lean to the democratic feeling, instead of uniting themselves with the Whig party, and taking their stand on Whig expediency [cheers]. He alluded to these points only in vindication of himself, having been charged by the *Morning Advertiser* with being an enemy to the League.

A resolution, pledging the meeting to support Mr Miall, was moved by Mr HUNT, seconded by Mr ROBERTS, and carried with acclamation.

Mr HEARN, an elector, reminded the meeting that every vote given for Mr Miall would be equivalent to a vote given to Mr Pilcher. He approved of the principles asserted by Mr Miall, but he had come too late into the field; and the result of a split in the Liberal party, if carried to an extreme, would be the success of the Tory candidate [cheers, and cries of "It won't do"].

Mr MAYNARD urged the electors not to be deterred by that consideration from voting for Mr Miall; and the Chairman spoke to the same effect.

On Friday night a meeting of Mr Miall's friends was held at Knighton's Assembly rooms, Blackfriars road, which were gratuitously put at the service of his committee by the liberality of the proprietor. There were about 350 persons present, and the spirit of earnestness and enthusiasm evinced at this, as well as at the foregoing meetings, were decisive indications of the beneficial influence these frequent discussions of great principle had already produced upon the minds of the inhabitants of Southwark.

Mr IZOD was called to the chair, and commenced by saying, that he undertook to preside on the present occasion to enable him to state his reasons why, as a Dissenter, he came forward to support Edward Miall on the present occasion. About twelve months ago, he was a strong advocate for Sir W. Molesworth; but, since then, her Majesty's government had introduced into parliament a measure for the endowment of Maynooth. They had been told, at that time, that this was only one of a series of measures. Now, he and his friends were of opinion that these measures were highly improper, whether they referred to the Roman Catholics of Ireland or to the Presbyterians of Scotland. He certainly did expect that Sir W. Molesworth would have come up to the mark, but unfortunately he did not. He, for one, was, up to last Monday, in doubt whether it would be wise to bring forward another candidate; but, having heard the opinions of Sir W. Molesworth at the Bridge House tavern, and those opinions being unsatisfactory, his brother Dissenters had determined to bring forward Mr Miall. Sir W. Molesworth had said, on being questioned as to the propriety of continuing the grant to Maynooth, that he would consult his constituency. Now, as this would take four or five weeks to accomplish, any obnoxious measure would be carried before their opinions could be collected. Mr Miall was entirely opposed to the union of church and state; and, if he went into parliament, it was his full and sincere determination to carry out this object. He could assure the meeting that it was the full determination of Mr Miall to go to the poll; and, therefore, he trusted those electors present would support him, and do all in their power to secure his return [cheers].

Mr MIALL then came forward, and addressed the meeting at considerable length, amplifying many of the arguments made use of on former occasions, and especially pressing upon the working classes the importance of the new ecclesiastical policy of government as affecting their welfare in particular. If once they allowed this ecclesiastical net-work to spread over the land, like the noble lion, they would be caught in its toils, and would be utterly unable to extricate themselves by their own exertions. Every one who looked at the measure was aware that it was only the forerunner of a more extensive one—that of paying the whole of the Catholic clergy [cheers]. He believed that the government had been carried on by means of a class legislation, which made laws to oppress the country at large. They had hitherto looked to baronets, and those having titles, to represent them. They had been led to think that with title, talents, private worth, and virtue existed. They (the people) had not turned their eyes to themselves; and thus, if they looked to the members of the present House, they would on their foreheads see the word "class" written. Their Home Secretary was adopting the French system of centralisation, which was robbing them of all self-government; it was progressively overthrowing the English constitution, and in its place establishing two classes of persons—namely, an army of placemen, and those who had to pay them [loud cheers]. After condemning the poor law and the Commons Enclosure act, Mr Miall entered upon some further explanation of what he said relative to the Anti-corn-law League. He had been compelled to enter upon a defence of his former strictures upon that body by a gratuitous charge on the part of the *Morning Advertiser*, of being an enemy to the League, and then, when he showed that that was not the case, he was accused of having been ill-timed in his observations on the workings of that body. This came with an ill grace from that journal, considering that three years ago it recommended the same course, viz., a greater reliance upon democratic support, to the leaders of the League; in proof of which, he read an extract from the *Morning Advertiser* of that time. He would now say that he not only sympathised with the object of that organisation, but that they would receive from him a more earnest and steady support, if returned to parliament, than from any other candidate in the field. The more earnest and decided they were, the more heartily would he co-operate with them. They could go to no lengths in seeking the legislative embodiment of free trade principles, in which he was not prepared to follow. Personally it would be a sacrifice to him to accept the representation of the borough; but seeing the resolutions that had been adopted in various parts of the borough on the subject of the Maynooth Endowment bill, he called upon them to make good their pledges and not expose themselves and their co-religionists to the charge that would be made privately against them, that they were sanctimonious hypocrites and humbugs.

Mr KNIGHTON then came forward to move a resolution, to the effect that Mr E. Miall was a fit and proper person to represent the borough of Southwark in parliament, and at some length entered into an exposition of his motives.

Mr G. NEWTH seconded the resolution, when

Mr PARR, of Blackfriars road, amidst great confusion, moved, as an amendment, that Mr Miall was not a fit and proper person to represent the borough; which, not being seconded, was lost, and the original resolution was carried. The meeting separated at ten o'clock.

On Saturday evening a meeting of Mr Miall's supporters was held at the Green Man Tavern, Old Kent road.

Dr NEWTH having been called to the chair, said, there were three reasons which induced him to prefer Mr Miall to the other candidate. The first was the question which had been so much mooted about granting sums of money to educate the Roman Catholic clergy. A large number of meetings had been held in this borough at which resolutions were passed pledging those present not to vote for any candidate who would support that measure. Sir W. Molesworth had decidedly said that he would have supported the Maynooth grant, had he been in parliament during the last session. Another point on which Sir William Molesworth fell short of his (the chairman's) ideas, was on the question of the suffrage [hear]. Sir William had said he was for an extension of the suffrage, but could not say to what extent. The third point of disappointment was on the Poor Law question. Sir William Molesworth was in favour of that abominable measure, while Mr Miall was decidedly against it. Under these circumstances he hoped that many others, like himself, would give their support to Mr Miall [hear, hear].

Mr MIALL (who was received with great cheering) said, that having already addressed four meetings in the borough during the past week, he would not trouble his hearers by a formal detail of the articles of his political creed, but would rather advert to one or two incidents which had turned up in the course of the day which required explanation. An article had appeared in that morning's *Chronicle*, in which an appeal was made to the good sense of himself and supporters as to whether he should not retire, and prevent the calamity which might otherwise accidentally happen—the return of a Tory. Now, that article appeared to him to proceed on a total misconception of the motives which had induced him to present himself to the electors of the borough of Southwark. He would not have offered himself to the electors had he not been determined to go to the poll [hear]. There was but little good done by putting forth certain principles in handbills, and in speeches at meetings, unless the real feeling of the electors was elicited at the poll-booth [cheers]. Therefore he had from the first been determined to go through this contest *bona fide*, and test the sincerity of those electors who had professed so much attachment to certain ecclesiastical and political principles. The *Chronicle* was in dread of a division of the "liberal interest," and appealed to him (Mr Miall) whether, the principles of the two candidates being so nearly identical, it was worth while running the risk of returning a Tory [hear]. He (Mr Miall) thought that there was a great difference between Sir W. Molesworth and himself, not simply in degree, but in principle [cheers]. Just let them take the Maynooth grant. Sir William Molesworth supported that measure as an act of justice—as a boon to the people of Ireland [hear, hear]. He (Mr Miall) on the other hand, held the opinion, that ecclesiastical endowments were an evil under all circumstances. Ireland had already an endowed church, which was admitted to be a great evil; to endow another, or the nucleus of another, was clearly to extend that evil. It was evident, therefore, on this point, that there was a difference in principle between Sir William Molesworth and himself. Then let them take the question of the suffrage. Sir W. Molesworth represented himself in favour of the extension of political power; but he gave no definition as to how far he would go. He would extend the suffrage, he says, as the people become intelligent, as they are educated. But who were to be the judges? What the constituted tribunal to decide when a person was educated enough to fit him for a vote? The same objection might as reasonably have been urged by the aristocracy against the Reform bill, which enfranchised the middle classes of society. The aristocracy might have said that the ten pound householders were vulgar and uneducated persons, unfit to exercise political power, and that the aristocracy were the men, and that wisdom would die with them [cheers]. He was bound, as a man, as a citizen, and as a Christian, to give to others those privileges which he claimed for himself [cheers]. He had no right to constitute himself a judge of other people's affairs. He should not like to be placed in the position of giving a vote which was not given alone to represent his own opinion, but the opinions of thousands of his fellow-men that the law disfranchised. He did not like this great responsibility. On this account he advocated that every man untainted with crime and of sound mind, be his position in society what it might, should have the right to vote for a representative in parliament [cheers]. He could not, therefore, identify himself with that party who looked upon the extension of the suffrage as a question of expediency and not of right—of political as well as moral right. He differed also with Sir William Molesworth on the new poor law question. That gentleman belonged to the political economists, who made out all their calculations by an arithmetical process. He admitted the correctness of the mathematical principles on which they proceeded. But man had within him certain complicated arrangements and springs of action, which these laws overlooked. Admitting the premises of the political economists, and their principle of reasoning, it was true that the increase of population would go beyond that of subsistence, and that a time would come when the earth could not contain its inhabitants. But these political economists, in looking at these laws, turned a blind eye to the law of human progress, and the security offered by the Deity that such a state of things need not be apprehended. They are like Nelson at the battle of Copenhagen, who put the telescope to his blind eye, and exclaimed, he could not see the signal to retreat. They cannot or will not see anything to disturb their mathematical theory. Let the meeting be assured that Providence has arranged far more wisely for man than the political economists suppose; and that so long as man is on the face of the earth, food will be provided for him. Proceeding on the principle he had first stated, the political economists had framed a law that interfered with the support of the poor. He admitted that the law of Elizabeth contained many defects, which required correcting; but he contended it should have been done in a kind, exalting, and conciliatory spirit, instead of a rigid and cruel spirit. Those in power had neglected the former, and chosen the latter course—of trampling on the people, rather than of opening their arms by a feeling and generous sympathy for them. How had that new law acted? It had not been long in existence, and had not produced the effects calculated. It had not elevated or improved the labouring classes, as had been prophesied. Instead of elevating that class it had driven them to the verge of despair. It had not effected its object—the drawing of a distinction between the dissolute and idle poor, and the poor who wished for employment. It was intended also to save the rate-payers, but it had not done so. Large funds, instead of going to support the poor, were applied to uphold an extensive and costly machinery of commissioners, sub-commissioners, inspectors, and placemen of every kind, paid handsomely from government money, that should have gone to maintain the indigent and unfortunate poor. They had gained nothing by the law, but lost much. It had drawn a line of demarcation distinctly between the poor and the middle classes. The former, under its operations, had been driven to the verge of desperation, and the breach created was never likely to be healed up till the middle classes came forward and assisted the working classes in obtaining their representative rights. In all these respects he differed with Sir William Molesworth, not in degree, but essentially on points of political faith. He did not feel much regard for the Liberal interest, looking at its conduct the last four or five years. He had not the smallest faith in it, after he had found it on every great national question that affected, in an injurious manner, the liberties of the people, taking part with the Tories. If he succeeded in breaking up party he would have done more good than had been done for a hundred years past. The great weakness of the so-called Liberal party was the want of principle [hear, hear]. What, if they lost the election, and let in a Tory? He did not consider that, as some respectable men did, so great a calamity: not after the character of the legislation which the Whigs had given them. Such an event would, no doubt, add one to the numerical strength of Sir Robert Peel; but would Southwark return a Tory twice? Could they not, then, show a little forbearance, even if a Tory were elected, when the effect would be to secure the ascendancy of principle at the end of two years? Better far to do this than compromise principle. He had heard that Sir William Molesworth had not satisfied the wishes of his friends. If he had satisfied the Dissenters, they were, indeed, much altered from what they were. He believed, on principle, the Dissenters would much rather send him (Mr Miall) to Parliament than one who came short of their wishes, though some of them might be disposed to depart from this view in order to keep out a Tory. But they should look a little to the future, and consider the best means of serving their ecclesiastical views; in doing which, they would see it could best be done by sending him to Parliament. This was the beginning at Southwark of a great experiment, and, if they proceeded firmly, other places would follow, and raise the same standard, and teach the Liberal party a lesson they stood much in need of. In Parliament, by Lord John Russell and his party, they had been treated with contempt. That noble Lord, in speaking of the Maynooth grant, admitted that a strong feeling existed among a numerous class out of doors against it, but he heard nothing of it within that House. It was their duty, therefore, to make their feelings, so contemptuously treated, in answer to the sneer of Lord John Russell, heard and respected in that House [loud cheers]. Mr Miall concluded by expressing himself willing to answer any questions that might be proposed to him. After Mr Miall had answered two questions on the extension of the suffrage, and the support of clergymen, in which he put forth the same views as he had given on previous occasions,

Mr DAY moved a resolution. He at first intended to support Sir William Molesworth, but the explanation that the hon. baronet had given of his political principles had been so unsatisfactory, that he (Mr Day) had withdrawn. He was one who signed the requisition to Sir W. Molesworth, previous to the meeting at the Bridge House hotel. It was his intention now to support Mr Miall. His great objection to Sir W. Molesworth was his support of the new poor law. He had a good deal to do with the administration of that law, and a more odious and detestable measure could not be conceived. It was a system of centralised despotism, and, having this strong opinion against it, founded on experience of its workings, he considered it would be suicidal to support Sir William Molesworth. He would conclude by moving the following resolution:—"That this meeting, entirely approving the political and ecclesiastical principles as set forth by Mr Miall in his address this evening, and earnestly desiring to see them embodied in the acts of the legislature, confiding also in the evidence he has given of his sincerity in the profession of them, and in his ability to enforce them in parliament, strongly recommend Mr Miall as a fit and proper person to represent the borough of Southwark in the House of Commons."

The Rev. Mr ARCHER seconded the motion, which was put to the meeting, and carried with but one dissentient.

Mr MIALL returned thanks for the honour done him in passing the resolution. Before leaving, he had something to say respecting the Rev. Mr Aldis, for whom he had a high respect. It was a matter of great inconsistency for a Dissenting minister in speaking of him (Mr Miall), to say that he had no chance whatever for the borough, and in the same breath making a profession of friendship. He was sorry that Mr Aldis should have spoken how the election was to turn without consulting him and his committee. It was likely, if he asked the other committee, that they should say that he (Mr Miall) had not the smallest chance of success. This was not acting, on Mr Aldis's part, in the spirit of candour or consistency. For himself he had no fears of the result. He had no reason to suppose he should not win the election. If they put all their energies to work, and acted resolutely, he had no doubt whatever of winning the day [loud cheers].

After a vote of thanks to the chairman, and three cheers for Mr Miall, the meeting separated.

To the Editor of the Times.

SIR—Will you allow me, through your columns, to correct a mistake (unintentional, I have no doubt) which appears in your reporter's sketch of a speech delivered by me to the electors of Southwark on Tuesday evening?

I am thus reported:—"He was the advocate of complete suffrage principles, and might credit himself with having been the rescuer of that movement from the disgrace into which it had fallen by being misled."

The complete suffrage principles and those of the people's charter are identical, and hence, I have no doubt, the error in your report.

I cannot repeat what I then said *verbatim*, but in substance it was this:—"That I advocated the principles of Chartism when to do so exposed me to obloquy; that I found them in disgrace, brought upon them by the outrageous conduct of some of the leaders of that cause, and that by calm reasoning I had succeeded to some extent in giving to them a currency amongst the middle classes which they had not previously been able to obtain."

I regard Mr Sturge as the leader of the complete suffrage movement; a gentleman with whom, in his conduct of this question, I have been proud to co-operate.

Yours respectfully,
EDWARD MIALL.

1, *Belgrave place, Tuffnell park, Holloway.*

METROPOLITAN COMPLETE SUFFRAGE ASSOCIATION.—At a meeting of the committee of this body, held on Monday evening last, it was unanimously resolved—

"That, in the opinion of this meeting, the zeal and ability displayed by Mr Edward Miall in advocating the question of complete suffrage, and in exposing the evils of commercial monopoly and state establishments of religion, eminently entitle him to the confidence and support of all true Reformers. And this meeting entreats the electors of Southwark to do honour to themselves and service to their country, by electing that gentleman to be their representative in the Commons' House of Parliament."

MEETINGS OF SIR W. MOLESWORTH'S FRIENDS.

A meeting of the supporters of Sir W. Molesworth was held on Thursday night, at the Assembly Rooms, Webber street, Blackfriars road.

Mr J. L. STEVENS was called to the chair, and said, that the gentlemen who supported Sir W. Molesworth had been charged with going over to the Whigs. Why, Sir W. Molesworth was the last individual to owe any consideration to the Whigs. He lost his seat for Leeds because he dared to attend a peace meeting in opposition to the Whigs; and Sir William was the unsuccessful candidate for that borough only because there was not a sufficient number of Radicals in the place to secure his election in opposition to the Whigs. In the *Nonconformist* of yesterday—a paper which represented the opinions of Mr Miall—it was asserted that Sir William Molesworth came forward on this occasion as the nominee of the Reform Club. He (the Chairman) was one of a large number of electors who considered it advisable, some time since, to have in view some eligible person as a candidate for the representation of the borough, in the event of a sudden vacancy. A gentleman was suggested by the Reform Club; but he and his friends replied, that in the borough of Southwark they were not in the habit of submitting to dictation in the choice of their representative [hear], and that they would take a member neither from the Reform Club nor the Anti-corn-law League [hear]. Mr Miall stated distinctly, on Tuesday night, that he condemned the principles of the Anti-corn-law League. [Loud cries of, "No; He is in favour of it."] He (the Chairman) had heard it stated that some of the friends of Mr Miall had declared that they would rather vote for the Tory candidate than see Sir W. Molesworth returned. [Hear; and cries of "No."] The friends of Sir W. Molesworth had been charged with inconsistency, because persons professing Whig principles had joined them in this contest; but they had not gone over to the Whigs, the Whigs had come over to them; and were they to reject these repentant political sinners? [Hear; and a laugh.] The Chairman concluded by introducing

Sir W. MOLESWORTH, who said, that he was not desirous, in the least degree, to force himself upon this great constituency; but he presented himself before them as a candidate, believing that a majority of the Liberal electors were inclined to give him their support. If he thought they were disposed to support any other candidate in preference to himself, he would be quite ready to retire from the contest [hear]. The hon. baronet then avowed his adherence to the principles he maintained when he formerly occupied a seat in the House of Commons. He referred to Sir R. Peel's recent measure for increasing the grant to the Roman Catholic college of Maynooth; and stated, that, though he had always been in favour of the Voluntary system, and opposed to grants of public money for ecclesiastical purposes, yet, if he had been in parliament last session, he would have considered it as his duty, viewing that measure as one of state necessity—[The hon. baronet was interrupted by hissing, and cries of "No, no," met with loud cheers].

The CHAIRMAN said, he hoped the meeting would grant the hon. baronet a patient hearing.

Sir W. MOLESWORTH continued—Viewing the proposal as one of state necessity, and regarding it as an educational measure, when he considered the condition of the Irish people, he would have felt it his duty to give it his support ["Oh," and cheers]. The hon. baronet then stated the grounds on which he regarded the Maynooth grant as founded upon a

compact entered into by this country at the time of the union; and observed, that it must be remembered a great proportion of the Irish people had been deprived of the property bequeathed by their ancestors for religious purposes, which property had been applied to the support of a religious creed in direct opposition to the feelings of seven-eighths of the Irish people. He (Sir W. Molesworth) was opposed to a repeal of the union; but he considered that the refusal of this grant for the support of Maynooth would have afforded some ground for the assertion of the bold agitator, that Ireland could expect no justice from England [hear, hear]. He must add, however, that he considered the present grant as amply sufficient for its purpose, and that he would oppose any further increase of that grant [cheers]. He would also, if returned to parliament, oppose any grants of public money for ecclesiastical purposes [a voice "The poor law"]. It was well known that when he was in parliament, he felt it his duty to support the Poor Law Amendment bill [hisses and cheers]. He did not pretend to say that a vast and complicated measure like the New Poor Law act could be perfect in all its parts. He would acknowledge that numerous defects had been discovered in that measure ["Grinding bones," "hear"]. Some of these defects had been remedied, and it might be that others which ought to be removed still existed. But he begged them to understand that he did support that measure, and that he would still support it, though he would be ready, to the utmost of his ability, to endeavour to remedy any well-proved defects [cries of "Shame;" "You don't seem to like the subject," and cheers]. He was now prepared to answer any questions that might be put to him.

Mr KNIGHT asked what course Sir W. Molesworth would have pursued in the House of Commons with regard to the Commons Enclosure bill?

The CHAIRMAN put it to the meeting, whether it was fair that his friend, Sir W. Molesworth, should be called on to answer these hypothetical questions when they were assembled for practical purposes [hear]? Sir William had not given such consideration to this subject as enabled him to express an opinion on it.

Mr KNIGHT said, he considered this question was of a practical nature, for it related to a measure which had the effect of depriving nine-tenths of the labouring classes in this country of their rights in land. He supposed Sir W. Molesworth was like the rest of the landholders—he wanted the lion's share of the land.

Mr ARCHER asked whether Sir W. Molesworth considered the surplus revenues of the church of Ireland to be church property?

Sir W. MOLESWORTH said, those revenues were at present the property of the church, but if any portion of them should be appropriated by the legislature, it would, of course, become national property. He wished to state that he would vote against any grant of money, taken from the pockets of the English people in the form of taxes, or from the consolidated fund, for the support of the Roman Catholic priesthood.

Captain HAWKINS moved a resolution to the effect, that the statement made by Sir W. Molesworth of his political opinions was highly satisfactory to the meeting [cries of "No," and cheers]—and that, in the opinion of this meeting, Sir W. Molesworth was a fit and proper person to represent the borough in parliament [cheers, and cries of "No"].

Mr POCOCK seconded the motion.

An ELECTOR, who observed that the majority of those present were non-electors, moved as an amendment—

"That, in the opinion of this meeting, Sir W. Molesworth is not a fit and proper person to represent the borough of Southwark in parliament."

The CHAIRMAN then put the amendment, which was negatived by a large majority, and the original resolution was carried amid loud cheering.

On Friday night Sir W. Molesworth again met his friends at the Leather Market Tavern, Bermondsey, when Mr W. Wilson occupied the chair. The hon. baronet's speech was almost entirely a reiteration of the arguments he had used on the previous evening. The great novelty of the meeting was the appearance of Mr John Aldis, Baptist minister, as a supporter of the hon. baronet.

Mr ALDIS said, that though he was a most hearty and determined opponent of the Maynooth grant ["hear, hear," and "Oh!"] he intended to record his vote in favour of Sir W. Molesworth [cheers]. Mr Miall, for whom he entertained the highest respect, was, to a certain extent, a personal friend of his own; but still he felt compelled to give his support to Sir W. Molesworth. If he thought it possible to send to parliament a man exactly representing his own opinions, he would vote for Mr Miall; but he considered not only what was desirable, but what was attainable [hear, hear]—and from what he knew of the constituency of Southwark, he did not think that it would be possible at present to carry Mr Miall's election [hear, hear]. If there were any chance of Mr Miall's return, he would not hesitate as to the course he should feel it his duty to pursue. His opinions on the subject of the Maynooth grant differed from those of Sir W. Molesworth; but he wished to state, that he (Mr Aldis) opposed that grant exclusively on the ground of his objection to the endowment of any religion by the state. Feeling that, if he voted for Mr Miall, he would subtract from Sir W. Molesworth's majority, and that, if he abstained from voting at all, he would be promoting the interests of the Tory candidate, he felt it his duty to support Sir W. Molesworth [cheers.]

A resolution to support Sir W. Molesworth was then put and carried.

Sir W. Molesworth's friends held a meeting on Monday evening, at the Bricklayers' Arms, Old Kent road. The meeting was well attended, but very noisy. There was considerable opposition to the hon. baronet in the course of his address. The old topics were re-discussed, necessarily with little novelty. He repeated his views with regard to Maynooth, insisting that the endowment was no violation of the voluntary principle. "He was no firm friend of the union of church and state [hear, hear]. He thought each man should be left to support his own creed, and provide for his own religious worship [cheers and hisses]; and that the legislature should interfere as little as possible with religious matters [hear]. It appeared, from the public papers, that Mr Miall and his friends had declared that they would prefer a Tory to be returned as the representative of the borough, rather than a Whig-radical, as they now pleased to call him (Sir W. Molesworth]. If such should really be their sentiments, he could only say that he and his friends were far more disinterested and far more attached to the Liberal cause than they could be, for he and his friends would much prefer Mr Miall to any Tory, however straightforward and respectable he might be; and most certainly they would prefer the return of Mr Miall to that nondescript without principles and without opinions, who claims the honour of repesenting that great borough on the mere ground that his forefathers were merchants, and resided in it [general cheering]." An amendment was moved, but rejected by a large majority of the meeting.

MEETING OF MR PILCHER'S FRIENDS.

The first general meeting of Mr Pilcher's supporters was held on Saturday evening, at the Bridge House hotel. The meeting was at first very thinly attended, but, at a later period of the evening, there were about 500 persons present, a large proportion of whom evidently consisted of his opponents.

Mr SHAW, an attorney, and probably a paid agent, was called to the chair. He commenced by reviewing the pretensions of the rival candidates:—

First, he said, there was Mr Miall, who laid claim to the whole of Southwark. That gentleman had put forth his principles, of which he (the Chairman) intended to make some use, in order to ascertain his fitness for the representation of the borough of Southwark. What was Mr Miall's first qualification? He says he is a man who has no public reputation [hear]. No one knows anything of him in public life—he has no rank—he has no wealth, no party connexion; and, therefore, possessing nothing, he asks to be chosen member for Southwark [hear]. Such was Mr Miall. He had a right to come forth, and, when he published his address, printed on paper both hard and soft, for the use of the people, the people had a right to use it [hisses, and laughter].

In a similar strain he proceeded to notice Sir W. Molesworth, and concluded by recommending Mr Pilcher to their notice, as a gentleman who, with his family, had resided many years among them.

Mr PILCHER then addressed the meeting. It was evident, from the poor attendance, and the absence of influential men, that Mr Pilcher does not possess the confidence of the Conservative party. Mr Pilcher's address was remarkable chiefly for its negative character and large admissions. He mainly relied on the long residence of his family in the borough, and his knowledge of its interests; he avowed himself "a firm Protestant," and "a friend to the poor." In reply to a question, whether he would vote for the extension of grants for ecclesiastical purposes, he replied, he had no hesitation in saying, that he considered the church to be quite rich enough without other support. He thought that, by a proper distribution of the land tax, the necessity for other assessed taxes, and even the income tax, might be obviated. An elector asked if he would support Mr Villiers's motion for unqualified and immediate repeal of the corn laws, which elicited this curious reply:—

I should not like to be sent to parliament shackled and chained on this question ["Oh, oh!"]. It shall have my serious attention [A voice—"Have you not considered it?"]. I am in favour of a repeal of the corn laws, with such qualifications as would most benefit the community without inflicting injury on any individual or body of individuals. With regard to free trade, it is now only a question of time, and only a short time too. Even Sir Robert Peel says it will come to that soon; and perhaps he is even now only considering what he should give to the landowners in lieu—whether there shall be a consolidation of the corn law, and land be relieved of the poor law, thereby granting an unshackled trade in the staff of life.

A resolution in Mr Pilcher's favour was carried by a doubtful majority; in fact, we have heard from parties present at this meeting, that there was a decided majority against the resolution.

COMFORT FOR TRAVELERS.—We have just seen a new invention called "The Railway Pocket Companion." It is the size of a *Court Guide*, and contains a small bottle of water, a tumbler, a complete set of surgical instruments, a packet of lint, and directions for making a will. It is very elegant, being bound to look like poetry, and its utility cannot be doubted for a moment when the bills of mortality are proving every day the great charms of railway traveling. We can conscientiously declare that the "Railway Traveling Companion" should be in the pocket of every gentleman who is in the habit of going on a railroad. It should be sold at every station.—*Punch*.

RAILWAY SPECULATORS.—"Jobbers, bulls, bears, stags, and lame-ducks," better known as speculators or gamblers, so *obstruct* the corner of Capel court, leading to the Stock Exchange, in London, that, on Saturday, Mr Jacob Nunes Castello was fined 20s. and costs, against what he considered to be "the rights of a free-born Englishman."

SELECTIONS FROM THE PRESS.

(From the *Patriot*.)

Poor Sir William! He is the friend of Dissenters, a strenuous supporter of the voluntary principle, a determined advocate for the separation of church and state; and yet he has not hitherto, although some such measure is obviously imminent, made up his mind to oppose the transfer of the church property in Ireland from the church of England to the church of Rome! In other words, he has not made up his mind whether, so far as he is concerned, there shall be one or two state churches in the sister island, or, if but one, whether Lambeth shall retain her hateful pre-eminence, or give place to the mild sway of Rome! Worst of all, he is not prepared to assure the Southwark Dissenters, that he will not lend his countenance to such a division of the spoil as would lead to a reconciliation between Pilate and Herod, and to the crucifixion of Protestant Dissent between two thieves.

The plain question is—Are the Southwark Dissenters willing to put up with such a representative as this? Had they no alternative between voting for Molesworth and not voting at all, would they stultify themselves, as the declared opponents of the Maynooth bill and of its admitted consequences, by promoting the return of a gentleman who vindicates the one, and is not prepared to deprecate the other?

But they *have* an alternative. Their votes are also solicited by a gentleman who scatters no ambiguous words among his explanations on any question—least of all, on ecclesiastical questions—a gentleman who is a voluntary from conviction and not from constraint—a voluntary in the concrete as well as in the abstract—a voluntary before and after, as well as during the present contest, and not merely for the nonce. Who among them, then, can hesitate? The eyes of the Dissenters of Great Britain are upon them. Nonconformist England is expecting every man of them to do his duty. Nor will they fail.

They will not follow the strange example of Mr Aldis, who runs with the hare, but holds with the hounds—who swears by Miall, but will poll for Molesworth. Poll he may; but, unless we have been misinformed, he has no more right to do so than if he still lived at Manchester, having forfeited his claim by removal to Shirley Common. The poll-clerk will, no doubt, be obliged to receive his vote, if tendered, his name being on the register; but the House of Commons, if appealed to, would strike it out. Mr Aldis appears to have announced, that the majority of the electors are of his mind. On this subject, at the present moment, one assertion is as good as another. For our own part, we think too highly of the intelligence of the Southwark Dissenters, to believe that any of them will be guilty of the absurdity, not to say the immorality, of declaring for one candidate, and voting for another.

Admitting that the mere political claims of the two Liberal candidates are pretty equally balanced, we cannot doubt, that the superior merits of Mr Miall will decide the scale in the minds of those electors who value principle above expediency—who see, in the Maynooth bill, the commencement of a series of measures, craftily designed, to postpone indefinitely the triumph of religious freedom, and to crush, between the joint ascendancy of Puseyism and Popery, the rising hopes of Protestant Dissent—who regard that system of centralisation, of which Sir James Graham is not a more zealous patron than Sir William Molesworth and the politico-economical school to which he belongs, as the harbinger and instrument of a governmental despotism—who prefer a devoted patriot to a *dilettante* politician, a man of character to a man of rank, and, though last not least, the author of "Views of the Voluntary Principle" to the editor of Hobbes.

(From the *Sentinel*.)

A great battle of high principle is about to be fought in this borough. The Dissenters are called upon by a gentleman possessing and deserving their confidence to return him to parliament, on the distinct grounds of his advocating a complete separation between church and state. Mr Miall is the true representative of voluntaryism and anti-endowment. With him there is no compromise, no accommodation, no tampering with what he believes to be the truth—no yielding to expediency. The grant to Maynooth has drawn him from his privacy, and he calls on all the Nonconformists in the borough of Southwark to attest the earnestness of their principles by giving him their votes; and this we consider they are bound to do in justice to the candidate, and from respect to themselves. No man has laboured more zealously, and with more talent, in the cause of religious freedom than Mr Miall, and if he fails in receiving every plumper that the Dissenters in Southwark can command, we shall hold them guilty, not only of ingratitude, but of grave dereliction from their duty.

(From the *Norfolk News*.)

A step has been thus taken by the Dissenters of Southwark in the right direction, and in the most efficient manner. They have demonstrated, by their timely vigour and resolution, that they are determined to do something for the principles of religious liberty, and that their past indignation at the unjust policy of the Whig as well as the Tory aristocracy has not evaporated in empty words. . . The issue of the present attempt is of course very uncertain, but the benefits to be derived from it do not depend upon its success. The moral stimulus of such a candidate upon such a constituency as Southwark, is well worth the chance of a temporary defeat of the so-called Liberal cause.

As this opinion will appear very unreasonable, not only to the nominal and insincere adherents of the Whig party, but to some right-minded, though, as we think, mistaken friends of civil and religious freedom, Dissenters as well as others, and as the question is one of great practical importance, we proceed to justify the course which Mr Miall and the voluntaries of Southwark have pursued.

The persons whom we are now addressing object to a decisive demonstration on behalf of their principles by withholding their votes, or by nominating a candidate without a tolerable certainty of success, for the following reasons:—

1. That the return of Tory candidates would be facilitated.
2. That such a step would amount to a practical disfranchisement.
3. That it would be a useless schism of the Liberal party.

Let us consider these objections.

1. That the return of a Tory candidate may, in some few cases, possibly be the result of an attempt to return an Anti-state-church candidate we readily admit. The real question is, to what extent is such a result to be deplored, and what would be the corresponding advantages of making the attempt? Be it remembered, that the question of the connexion of Church and State is, whether considered in itself or with reference to the danger of its immediately impending consequences, second in importance to no other. To be wrong on this question, is to be wrong on the subject of the utmost practical moment at this particular juncture. Nay, further: a Conservative, especially if he be an Anti-Maynooth one, is, however mistaken, actually less disposed to adopt a mischievous extension of the establishment principle than our parliamentary Whigs. Again, a professed advocate of religious liberty, who is wrong on this question, is not so much a man of mistaken principles, as one of no principle. Such a flagrant inconsistency must result either from a want of honesty, or from an infirmity of intellect. It denotes a man too feeble, or too faithless, to be trusted. We have had some experience of such representatives during the last two years. What does that experience teach us? What but this, that men of plausible professions, and of good intentions—of amiable temper, and of unblemished moral character—are, in default of decided principles, utterly unable to withstand the corrupting aristocratical influences which prevail in the House of Commons, and are as ready as any others to support the most iniquitous practices, and to advocate, or at least to vote for, the worst possible measures.

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By what we have gained in times past, we may judge what we shall be the better in time to come, by substituting men of this class in the place of either nominal or real Conservatives. We shall be not only non-represented as to our principles, and misrepresented as to our motives—not only betrayed in the first instance, and insulted in the next—but we shall be ourselves parties to the mischief that will ensue. We shall have forged fetters for our own limbs, and submitted our necks willingly to the yoke. The possibility, therefore, of a Conservative instead of a Liberal member, in the very few cases in which such a result is likely to be the effect of the course we recommend, does not seem to us a very distressing alternative, even if no benefit might be anticipated from the experiment. But those benefits would be immense. Even when the attempt to return men of sound and decided principles proved unavailing, how vast an accession of moral strength would accrue to the Liberal party by an emergency which should at once and for ever necessitate its adoption of a true instead of a sham profession of faith. Such an emergency would be created by a resolute determination of Dissenters to stand or fall by their principles, and can be brought about by nothing else. They would not, by such a course, form a new party, as is sometimes feared, but they would reform the old one.

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2. The objection of timid voluntaries that they would be practically disfranchised by voting for an unsuccessful candidate, or by not voting at all, is easily disposed of. Enfranchisement consists not in giving a vote, but in having one's opinions represented. A man who is restricted in voting to candidates whom he disapproves of, or to principles which he condemns, is as much disfranchised as the man who does not vote at all. Minor differences are of course to be submitted, but inability to give effect to an opinion on a capital point, is a virtual disfranchisement. The question is, therefore, simply this: is it better to surrender a single chance of giving a successful vote for the purpose of ensuring the future victory of a great principle, or to adopt a course the most likely to lead to permanent disfranchisement by delaying that victory indefinitely? When, therefore, we are asked whether it be not always desirable to vote for the better man of two, we answer, No, if by refusing to do so you secure the means of ultimately choosing the best man out of three.

3. The last objection which refers to the evil of splitting the Liberal party, we have already in a measure answered. The party would not be long split by the refusal of the Dissenters to be dragged any longer at its tail. As soon as they were found resolute, the party would very readily come to terms. The question is not whether it be desirable or no to split the party, but whether that party shall be made useful and efficient by being made consistent. The choice now offered to Dissenters is either to vivify the whole body with sound principle, or to become themselves the corrupt bond-slaves of expediency, neither of which alternatives supposes an isolation from all connexion with the Whigs. The charge moreover of schism, even for a time, could not apply to the Dissenters. The fault is with the Whigs who have already split the party by their grievous inconsistency with the principles professed by themselves, in common with their former allies, and which it is not pretended that the latter have in any particular abandoned. If civil and religious equality be right, division has been caused by the pretended liberals who have deserted their ground, and not by the Dissenters, who have maintained it.

We trust that by the effect of the present struggle for Southwark, whether that struggle prove for the time successful or otherwise, the great body of Dissenters throughout the kingdom may be aroused to a due sense of their power, and the grave responsibility which lies upon them, to use it in the most effectual manner for the public good. The question at stake involves not merely their own peculiar opinions and rights, but is calculated to exert a greater influence than any other upon all the temporal as well as the spiritual interests of the people of these realms.

(From the *Suffolk Chronicle.*)

The distinction between grants of public money to priests of any denomination for "educational" and for "religious" purposes, is too fine to deceive any but the most shallow-brained individuals, and therefore we hail with satisfaction the commencement of a struggle in which voluntaryism makes a bold stand against the further spread of ecclesiastical tyranny. Men there be who pretend to recognise a difference between morality and religion—the same who assume that public morality is one thing and private morality another. God save the mark! From these we have faint hopes, either of one or the other. At best they assume a virtue but have it not. Whatever may be the result of the Southwark election, this good will be sure to follow—the people will be induced to reflect upon their present degraded position, and an impetus given to the diffusion of right principles.

(From the *Leeds Times.*)

We want a few men in the present House of Commons, earnest for principles, bold of speech, zealous for the truth. We have already plenty of Sir William Molesworths—rich men, who think they do the people an honour by representing them, and not very careful about whether they do the people's work or not. It is a great error on the part of the constituencies that they will choose none but rich men, or men reputed rich. Men of moderate means, of inexpensive habits, who have been trained in the school of work, are the best men for the people. Rich men are generally easy, idle men. They have a thousand temptations spread before them, which are apt to draw them away from their duty. They are also easier tempted than men of moderate means. Andrew Marvell, the beau ideal of an independent patriot, was not a rich man. We should like, therefore, to see Mr Miall in parliament; our sympathies are wholly with him; he is thoroughly honest and sincere in the principles he entertains; he is of industrious, business habits, and will never be deterred from doing what he conceives to be his duty. The Dissenters need such a man to represent them in parliament; at present they have none to speak for them. The return of Mr Miall, at the present juncture, would give an immense impulse to the cause of popular freedom—civil as well as ecclesiastical. It would have a great influence upon other constituencies, and speak trumpet-tongued to ministers in its severe practical rebuke of their recent Irish policy.

(From the *Birmingham Pilot.*)

It is with pleasure that we find amongst the candidates for the representation of Southwark one who, while he consecrates his life to one great object—the separation of the church from the state—contends that the full triumph of the principles of civil and religious freedom "can only be secured to the people by means of real, in the place of nominal, representation." This last is the solid ground on which a triumphant contest can alone be fought, or an honourable defeat sustained.

(From the *Blackburn Mercury.*)

However unpleasant it may be to have such a liberal, honest, and well-tried candidate as Sir W. Molesworth opposed, we do not conceive the anti-state-church electors of Southwark owe an apology to any party for inviting a candidate to their mind, and Mr Miall's conduct is perfectly consistent in accepting their invitation. Liberal candidates must take the anti-state-church question from the shelf, and examine it more carefully than they have hitherto done. It shall remain undisturbed by our legislators, unless voluntaries insist upon it. The division of parties hitherto united may be faithful in its immediate results, we have strong faith it will *ultimate* in good to the cause of justice, and be promotive of the best interests of the subjects of these realms.

(From the *Glasgow Examiner.*)

Mr Miall is the only candidate worthy of the support of the intelligent, and independent, and anti-state-church population of Southwark. Our only fear is, that Mr Miall is too honest a man to place in parliament, as it is at present constituted. So corrupt is it that scarcely can one man be found able to resist the contamination; and, after the mournful falls which have occurred of late, we almost suspect the indomitable, the independent, the intelligent editor of the *Nonconformist* might partially yield to its influence.

(From the *Edinburgh Chronicle.*)

Mr Miall is not a man to flinch from any contest into which he once enters. He will assuredly go to the poll if his supporters wish him to do so. We shall be sorry to see the competition between him and Sir William Molesworth issue in the defeat of both, and the success of Mr Pilcher, the Conservative candidate. But even such a result would not cause us to regret the course Mr Miall has taken. Reformers like Sir William Molesworth must be taught that the great principles of political justice are no longer to be kept back or only half put forward.

(From the *Ipswich Express.*)

We confess that we should, upon the present occasion, prefer Mr Miall to Sir William Molesworth. The latter has had his turn—his parliamentary reputation has been achieved—let him not grudge, then, a new candidate for public fame and duty an opportunity of exhibiting his talents. Both parties are bound to submit to an amicable contest by ballot; still, if we had the casting vote, it should be for Miall.

MEETING OF THE FRIENDS OF COMPLETE SUFFRAGE, GLASGOW.—On Wednesday evening last, a friendly *soiree* of the friends of complete suffrage—to which Henry Vincent was specially invited—was held in the large room of Steel's Temperance hotel. The meeting was convened by private circulars issued during the day, and the attendance was highly respectable, consisting chiefly of electors and their friends. The evening was spent in the friendly and easy interchange of thought in a conversational manner, and in listening to short and highly appropriate speeches. At the close of the meeting, *it was unanimously resolved to recommend that one complete suffrage and free trade candidate should be proposed for this city at next election*, and that an address be issued to the electors, and a copy be presented to each. A committee was appointed to draw up the address, and to look after its circulation. The chief speakers were Henry Vincent, Esq., Mr Henry Wright, from America, and Messrs Macfarlane, M'Lean, and Reid. The meeting was cordial and enthusiastic, and we trust it will originate a movement that will secure representatives worth having.—*Glasgow Post.*

THE TEN HOURS FACTORY BILL.—At a meeting of the Lancashire Central Short-time Committee, on Wednesday, a plan was adopted for obtaining petitions to parliament, next session, in favour of the Ten Hours bill, from the inhabitants, clergymen, and medical men, of as many towns and from as many mill-owners as possible, and for holding meetings in the agricultural districts to procure petitions, and also memorials to agricultural members requesting them to vote for the measure. It was likewise resolved to ask Mr Henry Ashton, of Bolton, to procure a meeting of masters, to receive a deputation from the Short-time Committees, in order to agree upon the draft of a bill.

THE WEATHER AND THE CROPS.

In all the southern parts of the kingdom very beautiful weather has been enjoyed since Wednesday, but in some of the northern counties of England, as also in Scotland, the rain did not cease so soon as with us, and considerable damage appears to have been done along the eastern coast, by the extreme violence of the wind and torrents of rain, to the outstanding crops. On the whole, therefore, the prospects in regard to the harvest have in no degree improved, notwithstanding the late auspicious change in the weather; indeed, there is too much reason to fear that, however favourable the month of September may be for the ingathering, the previously sustained injury will render it impossible for an average crop of wheat to be secured. Complaints of the inferiority of the quality, as well as of the acreable deficiency, are general from all those quarters where progress has been made with reaping, and we much fear that these will increase in proportion as the harvest is proceeded with. Whatever may be said or written to the contrary, it would be folly to suppose that with such weather as that experienced throughout July and August, the wheat plant could have escaped being injured; and disposed as we are to take the most favourable view of the matter, we must be prepared to expect a very inferior produce, both in point of quantity and quality, to that of recent years. It is truly fortunate, under these circumstances, that farmers have up to the present time been enabled to meet the greatly increased consumption; with such supplies as are usually brought forward at this period in ordinary seasons, the value of the article must inevitably have risen to a very high point, and it may even now be questioned whether, when harvest operations are once fairly begun—for in the northern counties a commencement has scarcely yet been made—the demand may not overtake the supply. At the chief markets in Lincolnshire, Cambridgeshire, and Norfolk, no wheat of this year's growth has yet appeared; from all we can learn, the produce in those important counties will be very inferior to last season, and the fine samples, the growth of 1844, are likely to command comparatively high prices for mixing. In our last week's article we noticed the rumours then already current, respecting a disease in the potato crop; complaints on this subject have increased since then from most of the southern and western counties, but we are happy to say that hitherto the reports from the north and east, as well as the advices from Scotland and Ireland, are silent in respect to this matter, from which we infer that the mischief has not extended far. By our Scotch advices it seems that the weather was excessively wet and boisterous in that country up to Wednesday night, and though it subsequently cleared up, the storm of wind and rain had, it was feared, done irreparable injury to the grain crops.—*Mark Lane Express.*

We are not without hope that even yet a fair crop will be obtained this season, certainly inferior in quality to that of last year, but probably more in quantity. This we say, though we suspect that most of the accounts from the country which tell us that as yet no damage has been done are more flattering than true. Some districts have indeed been wonderfully fortunate compared with others; but we rather think it must be admitted that in all more or less damage has been done to the grain crops. On the other hand, it should be observed that the crops were heavier on the ground at the end of July than they were almost ever known to be before; and if four-fifths of the corn should come to maturity and be safely harvested, the crop will still be an average one. It is also to be observed that, while last year was almost a failure in respect to green crops, this year promises the greatest abundance in that description of farming. Last year the difficulty was to find food for cattle; this year it is to find stock to eat the food. Upon the whole, notwithstanding the scarcity of sunshine this year and the abundance of wet, we may hope that, taking all things together, there will be a fair average of general produce; and, though the toil and anxiety of the farmer may be great, the ultimate results will be better than they sometimes are in seasons which lead to very low prices.—*Morning Post.*

Our accounts of the weather in France differ in different districts. The southern departments are in a wretched state. In Poitou, for example, all hope being at an end, the produce of large districts is abandoned, and will rot of course. In the neighbourhood of Paris things are better.

The reports received in Paris from Belgium are said to be "heart-rending:" the grain crop is injured, and the potato crop a failure.

The last advices from Canada complain of protracted rain, wheat laid, and smut.

From the United States the reports are still favourable.

The German papers state that a dreadful famine at this moment prevails in Lithuania and several other provinces of Poland.

The weather has been changeable and blustering in this country, though now tranquil and bright; but the west of France was visited on Tuesday by a tremendous hurricane. At Paris the wind broke or tore up by the roots trees of large dimensions, and did other extensive damage. At Rouen a large factory was blown down by the hurricane, and two hundred persons are said to have been killed and wounded.

M. Arago, it is said, attributes the cold and rain of this season to some immense block of ice detached from the mass in the Northern seas.

IRELAND.—The whole of the last week the weather here has been fine, although the temperature is somewhat low for the season; still the crops about Dublin present a forward and luxurious appearance.

The reports from the country, however, are not so satisfactory. Throughout the province of Munster, especially, complaints of the continuance of rain are very general; and, in some districts, wheat has suffered considerably from blight and mildew. The potato crop, the poor man's staple commodity, is abundant beyond precedent, the very finest kinds selling in the metropolis at 3½d. per stone. Under any circumstances the harvest will be one of the latest for many years.

Monday, in London, though neither so warm or bright as on the preceding day, was generally fine, with a somewhat brisk wind from the south-west, and slight falling of the barometer, indicating rain. The heavy rain which descended about five o'clock on Sunday morning was by no means general, no traces being perceptible beyond four or five miles from London. Yesterday was bright and warm, and all that could be desired for the ingathering of the harvest.

Disturbed State of Clare.—According to the *Limerick Chronicle*, Clare is again suffering from agrarian disturbances.

The Library of the Late Duke of Sussex, containing upwards of 30,000 volumes, embracing a rare collection of Bibles and theological works and prints, has been sold for £19,149. The collection cost the late illustrious prince between £15,000 and £16,000, but great addition was made to the library by the number of books presented to him.

New Appointments.—Friday's *Gazette* notifies the appointment of William Blamire, Esq., and George Darby, Esq., to be "Enclosure Commissioners" for England and Wales.

We understand that Government has appropriated £25,000 of the grant for the improvement of harbours to that of Harwich, and that the works will be commenced almost immediately.—*Bury Post.*

Political Friendship!—Sir Robert Peel has settled, out of his own private purse, £400 a year on Mr Bonham, late of the Ordnance. [This statement has since been contradicted on authoriry.]

The funeral procession, in New York, in honour of General Jackson, was seven miles long!

Madagascar.—The Indian advices state that in consequence of the Queen of Madagascar's ordering all Europeans to quit her country unless they would submit to be naturalised, the war ships Thunderer and Conway had proceeded thither from Mauritius, to protect such British subjects as were resident in the island.

The Cholera in India.—The overland-mail from Calcutta reached London on Wednesday night. The Punjaub (observes the *Globe*) is still the prominent feature in intelligence from India. A different class of feelings is, however, excited by the events which are now passing over that ill-fated country. It has ceased, at least for a time, to be the scene of contending factions. The ravages of death, whose immediate agent is cholera in its most terrific form, have arrested the secret intrigues, and hushed into silence the tumults and violence, of ambitious chiefs, contending with each other for supremacy. Those who held, and those who aspired to obtain, a precarious sovereignty, have been compelled to bow their heads to the common destroyer. In Lahore and its neighbourhood, it was calculated that the deaths were, on an average, from 500 to 700 per day. At the date of the last accounts this dreadful disease was on the decline, after having carried off between 20,000 and 30,000 victims. Peshawur, too, was nearly deserted. None but the poorest and most helpless remained within its walls; all who had the means of removing themselves and families had fled to the open country. Between the 30th of March and the 2nd of May, the number of deaths within the city had amounted to nearly 5,000. The scourge had swept the country as far as the banks of the Sutlej; and had made its appearance at Ferozepore, though not in the British cantonments. The commercial news is without change, the markets for British goods still being dull. In Ceylon the cultivation of the tea plant had been commenced, and great expectations were entertained of the result of the experiment.

The *Times*, carrying out its shrewd method of doing business in journalism, has sent its own special commissioner to Ireland, with instructions to report "from time to time;" and his reports have begun. The first letter is dated Cavan, August 14, but consists principally of general remarks on the state of the country. One or two others of a practical character have since appeared.

Execution.—Denis Lucie, who was found guilty of the murder of Daniel Sullivan, near Killenaule, expiated his dreadful offence on the drop in front of the county gaol, Clonmel, on Saturday week. He made no public confession of his guilt. There was an immense crowd of people present.

Dr Alexander Fletcher.—We understand that the honorary degree of doctor in divinity has been conferred by Delaware college, in America, on Mr Alexander Fletcher, A.M., minister of Finsbury chapel, London.

Another Tom Thumb.—The county of Somerset has produced an English Tom Thumb. He is named Richard Guernsey; he is two feet ten inches in height, and 15 years of age. He sings songs, dances, and our correspondent says he is very clever and popular with the neighbouring gentry.—*Western Times.*

The *Carmarthen Journal* says that the statement about the death of Mr Aldridge, "the African Roscius," is wholly without foundation. The gentleman is alive and well.

TERRIFIC HURRICANE IN FRANCE.—DREADFUL LOSS OF LIFE.

A tremendous storm of thunder and lightning, accompanied by violent gusts of wind, visited Paris and the neighbouring country on Tuesday last. The following is the account given by the French papers:—"Yesterday, about one o'clock, there was a very heavy shower of rain in Paris with thunder. This shower was followed at intervals by gusts of wind, which increased in violence till towards three o'clock, when it blew a tremendous hurricane, by which damage was done to an incalculable extent. At the Tuileries, the Pavilion Marson was partly unroofed, the trees in the garden and on the terraces, particularly those by the water side, were stripped of numerous branches, and the ground was strewed with these, as were the boulevards. Tiles, slates, and iron chimney pots fell into the streets, but happily we have not learnt that any personal injuries were sustained. In the Champs Elysées and on the outer boulevards several trees were blown down; some of them were the most deeply rooted. On the Place de la Concorde, during two minutes, *the water from the fountains was carried up to the clouds*, not a drop being suffered by the whirlwind to fall into the basins. This phenomenon was witnessed by numerous spectators. All this, however, is nothing compared to the damage done in the country around. Fields covered with corn in the sheaf were so completely swept by the storm that very little, if any part of the harvest will be recovered. Several carriages are said to have been blown over."

At and near Rouen the disasters occasioned by a terrific whirlwind, were most appalling, and almost unexampled. A correspondent of the *Times* describes the scene:—

The whole of the forenoon of Tuesday, August 19, had been stormy. After 12 o'clock the wind increased, and by 1 o'clock blew a hurricane, with the amount of rain that usually accompanies a thunder storm ere the crisis arrives. A few minutes after 1 o'clock two flashes of lightning, followed by loud thunder, were observed. Immediately afterwards a spectacle presented itself so unusual and so appalling that those who witnessed it were struck mute with terror.

The clouds, which were low, scarcely rising above the tops of the hills on each side of the valley, commenced turning or revolving within each other. A low moaning was heard in the air, which presently increased to a noise louder than thunder. A whirlwind rose, and rushed up the ravine above described. On the top, or at the issue of it, the trees were large, thick, and numerous, but the wind, which came from the south, cut them as with a scythe. It descended, tearing up the roots or snapping like wands the trees that clothed the side of the hill; crossed the road diagonally, burst through a fence, opened for itself a passage through a high embankment, destroyed cabins, fruit and ornamental trees in its course, and arrived at the factory of M. Neveu. It overthrew, and razed it literally to the ground. It unslated the adjoining dwelling-house, and proceeded to the factory of a M. Mare, a distance of 600 or 800 yards, ravaging the intervening grounds. This latter factory fell before it, *as if a house of cards.* Walls, roof, machinery, inmates, were destroyed, and mingled by its resistless force. The dwelling-house of M. Mare was spared, like that of M. Neveu, but the unslating of the roof and walls was more complete.

Hitherto the storm had followed its direct course from south to north. After passing over the house and factory of M. Mare, and reaching that of M. Picquot, it wheeled suddenly to the right, and passed a distance of a couple of hundred yards to the east, but returned to its abrupt *detour* ere it reached the road. Then, like a huntsman who takes ground sufficient to put his steed in full speed ere he attempts a great leap, and like him, making itself up for the feat, it rushed upon the factory of M. Picquot (a splendid new and solid structure of brick, presenting a front of about 200 feet in length).

It would seem as if the whirlwind gained strength in the valley, or reserved itself for the grand blow at this factory. In the first, thirteen people perished—in the second, fifteen. The whirlwind then made a sharp turn to the right, took breath, and, coming back, made its irresistible assault upon the body of the factory. So extraordinary was the force at this point that a stack of chimneys on the left wing was broken across a few feet above its low roof. Portions of it were, with the zinc covering of the roof, blown over the mill stream, a distance of forty or fifty yards.

Disdaining the wings (although in its previous course it had descended to crush very humble shrubs), and concentrating its force, the whirlwind, which, as every appearance suggests, was about the exact breadth of the factory, rushed upon it, and *literally blew it from its foundation.* Hardly checked by the opposition of brick walls, it essayed the mountain in the rear. Here the resistance was real and effective, although the wrecks of trees on the sides of the hill show that the onset was furious. Rallying, and making a sudden turn to the right, it resumed its original direction, and tore along the valley nearly to its termination, and then rose up the side of the western mountain, destroying or maiming trees in its way. At the summit it blew down many, and a little on the descent on the other side it demolished a barn, rushed down the hill, and, before pursuing its way along the valley, unroofed and damaged the paper mill of a M. Duval. The time occupied by the devastation I have so faintly depicted was, from its reaching the top of the ravine on the eastern side of the valley (at St Maurice), until the completion of its disastrous mission, *a minute and a quarter.* The distance through which I have followed it is somewhat more than a mile.

Leaving out of view the aspect of the valley after the departure of the whirlwind, the scene of desolation it had produced was almost indescribable. Three immense buildings, crowded from the ground to the roof with machinery, materials, and hundreds of human beings, reduced to one confused mass of wreck. The sight was horrifying. The workpeople of the other (adjoining) factories, who had been struck mute with apprehension, turned, after the passage of the hurricane, their regard towards the parts of the valley where had stood the neighbouring buildings, and were appalled by the vacancies that offered to their view. This sensation was only momentary, however, for they at once took in the whole disaster and ran with one accord to the ruins of their respective neighbourhoods. The masses of brickwork, beams, some of them fifty feet long and sixteen or eighteen inches square, bags of cotton, iron bars, portions of steam-engines, weighing many hundreds of pounds, were instantaneously caught up and removed. Beneath them were found, as well as I can learn, nearly 250 human beings of all ages, and both sexes. A few—a very few, already dead. The rest were bruised, wounded, crushed, disfigured, mutilated. Either the storm that continued to rage, and the rain that now began to pour, drowned the groans and moans of the victims, or they were unable to utter a cry; but true it is that few cries were heard, although the labours of those who toiled to relieve them were carried on in almost deathlike silence. The description of their appearance, which I had from many of those engaged in rescuing them, is too horrible to repeat. Nearly 200 of the wounded were removed in carriages to the hospital of Rouen. A few still remain in the cottages in the neighbourhood of the disaster, some of them mortally wounded. Already 65 are dead—61 positively, and four still missing, supposed to be buried under masses of wall thrown into the river.

Among other phenomena, which I have not time to recount, I will mention that one out of a hundred large poplars that line a road near to M. Picquot's factory was cut across about eight feet from its root, *while not one of the others appears to have had a leaf ruffled.*

On the top of the ravine dozens of trees were snapped across about ten or twelve feet from the ground. Lower down the side of the hill huge forest trees were torn up by the roots as completely as I have seen a plant raised from a flower-pot, with a round compact mass of earth adhering to it. An orchard just within the road is prostrated, most of the fruit still on the branches. Cabins and hovels close to it are buried beneath the wreck of the trees on the heights blown down upon them.

The *Mémorial de Rouen*, of Friday, says:—"The clearing away of the ruins of the three manufactories is completed. The final number of the dead bodies dug out from the ruins is seventy-five. The number of the wounded, from a hundred and fifty to a hundred and seventy. Besides the seventy-five dead bodies dug out from among the ruins, we have to add a certain number of wounded who have died, and many others are so dangerously hurt, that there is little hope of saving them." From Paris, and other places, assistance to the sufferers is pouring in. The same journal states, that the pecuniary loss will be not less than 1,200,000 francs. From all the observations that have been made, there can be no doubt that the phenomenon was accompanied by the electric fluid. The *Mémorial* records the following affecting incidents:—

We have mentioned the heroic courage of M. Neveu, who was found in the midst of the ruins, resting on his wrists, and forming a sort of arch over his mother. He was not less than three hours in this horrible position, and such was the muscular contraction, that, after his being extricated, he underwent complete prostration, and remained several hours without power to articulate. His first words were, "I know that I'm ruined, but I do not complain; I have had the happiness to save my mother." In one place a young girl was found unhurt under the ruins, between some baskets of cotton, which were protected by some beams that had fallen over them. A young girl, who was at work on the first floor of M. Picquot's factory, jumped out of the window, and escaped with a slight contusion. Three young brothers were at work in the same factory. One of them was carried with the ruins into the river. He was taken out alive, and but little hurt, but he has been in a state of idiotcy ever since. A second saved himself by clinging to the wall, precisely where a few *mètres* of it remained standing. The third was drowned.

Hurricane in Holland.—A letter from the Hague, dated August 22nd, says—The journals contain numerous accounts of the devastation caused in various parts by a hurricane or waterspout, that came from the south. From Liege we learn that, on the 18th, about half-past five o'clock in the afternoon, "we had a furious hurricane or waterspout from the south-west, which beat down several large and strong barns, some to the very foundation, from the house of the burgomaster to that of Bastiaan de Vigel. The houses, too, have suffered enormous damage. The roofs are carried away, the windows dashed to pieces, and many are so much injured, that they are in danger of falling. It is impossible to estimate the damage, for not only the stock in the barns, but also what corn was mown and still in the fields, was taken up and scattered far and near. We hear that the same hurricane, accompanied by a thunderstorm, raged at Zavenberger, and did much damage." From other quarters similar disastrous accounts had been received.

The Robbery at Buckingham Palace.—On Thursday, John Taylor, a cabinet-maker, was tried for stealing a silver statue and a china vase, the property of the Queen, from Buckingham Palace. The accused had been employed in the Palace. The evidence was conclusive, and he was found guilty.

Mr Charles Dickens has announced his intention of being present at the Athenæum *soirée*, at Manchester, in October next, to be held under the presidency of Mr Serjeant Talfourd. Expectations are also entertained, that Monsieur Eugène Sue, the celebrated author of "The Mysteries of Paris," will be among the guests on that occasion.

The Irish Colleges and the Catholics.—Dr Crolly, Catholic Archbishop of Armagh, has expressed his determination to give the government college a "fair trial;" while Mr John O'Connell sets Archbishop M'Hale against his colleague, and hints that the laity will defer to the Primate if he be supported by the general hierarchy.

Moral Effect of Capital Punishments.—After the execution of Benjamin Ellison, at Bodmin, about a fortnight since, the hangman sold the rope in bits, at a shilling each, to persons who believe it to be a cure for fits and the king's evil!

RAILWAY ACCIDENTS.

(From the *Spectator*.)

For a week or so there has been quite a scarcity of railway accidents; but now they are happening again by the half-score or more at a time. The mere enumeration is startling:—

On the Great Western, three accidents. At half-past seven o'clock in the morning, the boiler of the engine attached to a train which had just left the Maidenhead station, exploded; another engine was procured, the train began to move, and the boiler of that engine burst. At a quarter past ten o'clock, the Exeter mail train was about to leave Paddington, when the boiler burst. No one was hurt; which was quite a favour, considering that three boilers burst in three hours—just a boiler bursting per hour.

The South Western, one. A fire-box was rent open by the pressure of the steam, and the engineer was much scalded. A man was struck on the head by a piece of coke, but he only "sustained a slight cut."

Gloucester and Bristol, one. A train ran off the rails, but without doing any injury.

Birmingham and Bristol, one. A goods train was set on fire by a spark from the engine. The damage was not great.

Norfolk, five. At Wymondham, the horses of some ballast carriages, employed at night, ran into a train, and were all killed. Near Bishop Stortford, an axletree of the engine broke, and a wheel came off. Between Norwich and Yarmouth some sheep got upon the line; the train passed through them, and several were killed. "The battens along a great portion of these lines are much too slight." Between Thetford and Brandon, the bottom of a furnace fell out; also a carriage got off the line. The *Bury Post* naively observes—"Perhaps these various and unusual accidents, having occurred with no danger to the passengers, ought rather to inspire confidence than fear: but they certainly have had an opposite tendency, and the passenger traffic is very small between Norwich and London, compared with what it would no doubt have otherwise been." These little incidents, indeed, might afford much amusement to pass the time in traveling. Passengers might lay bets whether the train will hold together for so many stages, or whether they themselves or the stoker shall be smashed; the suspense would cheat the tedious hours; at every jar, the layer of the odds would be "in hopes;" and, on being crushed, he would have the consolation of winning—for, of course, the odds would always be laid on the accident.

North Midland, three. A mail train entered the Derby station propelled by an engine behind; the train was not stopped in time; it was forced forward; a carriage was driven on to the platform, which was damaged; and the passengers were all thrown from their seats, some receiving severe cuts and contusions. The wounded were taken to the infirmary, where their hurts were dressed. One form of the wagers which we suggest might be, whether the passengers shall finish their journey at home or in the hospital. At Masborough, a man attempted to cross the line while a train was "shunting" or backing in a confined station: he fell, his legs were cut off, and he died. Between Woodlesford and Methley, an engine ran down an embankment thirty feet deep. There were only eight passengers, three of whom were much cut and bruised; but they bled profusely, were sensible, and even able to walk—which is beginning to seem wonderful after a railway ride. The others were only bruised; and that may be considered as becoming the average condition of railway passengers. An iron "chair" supporting the railway had broken.

Northern and Eastern, one. An engine ran off the line, on the new part, between Bishop Stortford and Ely; the engine was turned topsy-turvy, and the carriages were much shaken; the engineer and stoker being thrown into some water, and the passengers "much knocked about." A small piece of rail had broken off.

Sunderland and Newcastle, one. Two trains met on a single line; the stoker's arm was broken, and the passengers were "a good deal shaken." Signals had been hoisted to stop one of the trains, but the engine-driver "did not know why he did not stop."

Preston, one. Two trains met; one engine went off the rails; carrying away two carriages of the other train, "like a pair of panniers." There were nearly a hundred passengers; but they were not seriously injured—not more than railway passengers should be.

There is not much actual death in this list of seventeen accidents on nine railways, but a good deal of bloodshed, and more of risk. The proximate cause of the accident, in almost every case, was evidently some form of carelessness; either the line was used prematurely, the apparatus had got out of repair without its being observed, or the people employed went about their work heedlessly. All points to more system and discipline. It would be impracticable to employ on railways none but "gentlemen"—that is, educated men of cultivated vigilance and intelligence; and if you employ an inferior class you must supply the want of individual tact with rules and discipline. There ought to be a minute, thorough, and perpetual examination of all the apparatus. The men should be drilled to go through every form of their duty with mechanical exactness, as much when they think it unnecessary as when they think it necessary. The common soldier, whose business it is to destroy life, is so drilled, and effectually for the purpose; how much more needful where the purpose is to preserve life.

Religious Intelligence.

ORDINATION SERVICES, SARON, TREDEGAR.—On the 29th, 30th, and 31st of July ult., Mr Evan Jones, late of Brecon Independent college, was set apart to the arduous work of the ministry at Saron, Tredegar, Monmouthshire, when the following ministers officiated:—On the 29th, at six, Messrs Davies, of Brecon college, and Jenkins (Wesleyan), Tredegar, preached to a large and numerous congregation. The following day was chiefly occupied by conferences of ministers and deacons, for discussing the most efficient measure to liquidate the debts which still remain on the different Independent chapels in the county. On the evening of the same day, at six, Mr Jeffreys, of Penca, introduced the service, and Messrs W. Edwards, of Aberdare, late of Brecon college, Mr Davies, Jerusalem, and E. Rees, Penwnain, preached. On the 31st, at six in the morning, Mr Davies, of Brecon college, introduced, and Mr T. Griffith, of Blaenavon, preached. At nine, Mr M. Jones, of Vartey, introduced, and Mr R. Jones, Sirhowy, delivered a most elaborate discourse on the nature and constitution of a Christian church. Mr M. Ellis, of Mynyddislwyn, proposed the usual questions, which were most satisfactorily answered by the young minister. Mr D. Stephenson, of Nantyglo, offered the ordination prayer in a manner exceedingly powerful and pathetic. Mr E. Davies, A.M., classical tutor of Brecon college, preached to the young minister, and Mr H. Jones, of Carmarthen, late of Tredegar, preached to the church. At one, all the ministers dined together at the Cambrian inn. At half-past two, the Independent chapel, though spacious, proved too small to contain the crowded congregation that had assembled together. In consequence of this, the Baptists kindly offered the service of their chapel, where, with much convenience, the afternoon and evening services were conducted. The afternoon service was introduced by Mr D. Salmon, of Newport, late of Brecon college, and Messrs B. Evans of Frome, and Pearce of Liverpool, preached; the former in English. At six, Mr J. D. Williams, of Homerton college, introduced, and Messrs E. Roberts, of Cwmavon, late of Brecon college, E. Griffiths, of Swansea, and J. Hughes, of Dowlais, preached. Mr Jones commences his ministerial labours under circumstances most promising and favourable. On the occasion, a large number of ministers, connected with our own as well as other denominations, were present; thus testifying the high esteem in which they held the young minister, and their convictions of his suitableness to the important work of the gospel ministry.

BARNET.—On Tuesday, the 12th inst., the annual meeting of the teachers and friends of the Sabbath school, in connexion with Wood-street chapel, in this town, took place. The children had tea at four o'clock in the school room adjoining the chapel; and after singing a few hymns, and otherwise enjoying themselves in the open air, were dismissed. The general company then took tea together, after which, finding the school room too small to accommodate the large number present, they adjourned to the chapel, when most excellent, appropriate, and effective addresses were delivered by Messrs J. Stribling of Enfield, J. Kay of Coggeshall, A. Stewart (minister of the place), also by Mr Brunt, the worthy superintendent of the school; and after singing, the meeting was concluded with prayer. Many of the friends came from the surrounding villages, at distances of four, five, and six miles, and all appeared much gratified with the meeting.

CAMBRIDGE.—Mr Thomas Burditt, of Long Sutton, has accepted a cordial invitation to take the pastoral charge of the Baptist church worshiping in Zion chapel in this town, vacant by the resignation of Mr H. Battiscombe, A.M.

ABINGDON.—Mr Robert H. Marten, B.A., of Stepney College, London University, has accepted a cordial invitation to the pastorate from the church of Christ worshiping in Lower chapel, Ock street, Abingdon.

MR ROBERT SIMPSON (son of Mr A. C. Simpson, LL.D., of Long Sutton, Lincolnshire, and grandson of the late Robert Simpson, D.D., theological tutor of Hoxton College, London), has accepted the unanimous invitation of the Independent church, Gornal, Staffordshire, to become their pastor; and, D.V., enters on his charge Lord's day, August 24th, 1845.

KIDDERMINSTER.—The church and congregation assembling in the Old Meeting-house, Kidderminster, have unanimously invited Mr D. K. Shoebotham, of Dundee, to become their pastor.

Trade and Commerce.

LONDON GAZETTE.

Friday, August 22.

The following building is certified as a place duly registered for solemnising marriages, pursuant to an act of 6 and 7 Will. IV., cap. 85:—

Wesleyan chapel, Pennington, Lancashire.

DECLARATION OF INSOLVENCY.

ORTON, WILLIAM, Darleston, Staffordshire, file-cutter, Aug. 20.

BANKRUPTS.

HOGG, EDWARD THOMAS, and WALTON, WILLIAM NEALE, 14, Duke street, Adelphi, wine merchants, August 29, October 2: solicitor, Mr C. J. Shirreff, 7, Lincoln's-inn fields.

HOWELL, THOMAS, Queen's Head passage, Newgate street, City, hotel keeper, August 29, October 9: solicitors, Messrs Traherne and White, Bucklersbury.

KIRKMAN, JOHN, late of Great Warley, Essex, but now of Lupus street, Pimlico, butcher, September 1, October 3: solicitor, Mr Turner, Mount place, Whitechapel road.

LING, BENJAMIN, Fore street, Limehouse, timber dealer, August 28, September 26: solicitors, Messrs W. J. Norton and Son, New street, Bishopsgate.

PRATT, JAMES MANTLE, 13, Berners street, Oxford street, wine merchant, August 29, October 9: solicitors, Messrs Lawrence and Plews, Bucklersbury.

SIMS, JOHN, Tollard Royal, Wiltshire, wheelwright, September 1, October 3: solicitor, Mr Henry Ashley, Shoreditch.

SOLOMONS, NATHAN, and SOLOMONS, ELEAZER, 2, Church lane, Whitechapel, and 32, Sydney place, Commercial road East, and also of 87, Farringdon street, City, boot and shoe makers, August 29, October 9: solicitor, Mr John Watts, Worship street.

SUCKLING, JOHN HOLMAN, Birmingham, ironmonger, September 11, October 7: solicitors, Mr John Smith, Birmingham; and Mr W. W. Jackson, Gray's inn, London.

SUGDEN, ROBERT, Bogthorne, Yorkshire, manufacturer of worsted goods, September 2, 25: solicitors, Messrs Williamson and Hill, Gray's inn, London; Messrs Rudd and Co., Halifax; and Mr Bond, Leeds.

DIVIDENDS.

H. Priddey, Droitwich, Worcestershire, upholsterer; div. of 3s. 3d., any Tuesday after Oct. 5—J. and T. Batt, Old Broad street, City, silkmen; first div. of 4s., any Wednesday after Dec. 1—M. Tomlinson, Kidderminster, linen draper; div. of 3s., any Tuesday after Oct. 6.

Tuesday, August 26th.

DECLARATION OF INSOLVENCY.

ORTON, WILLIAM, Darlaston, Staffordshire, filecutter.

BANKRUPTS.

CLARKE, ROBERT BLOOMFIELD, Gower street North, plumber, Sept. 4, Oct. 10: solicitor, Mr George Malim, 11, South square, Gray's inn.

HANSARD, WILLIAM MATHEW, late of Westbourne road, Paddington, and now of Park road, Holloway, and Highgate, florist, Sept. 9, Oct. 9: solicitors, Messrs Chamberlayne and Meaden, 31, Great James street, Bedford row.

HINDES, ABRAHAM, and THOMPSON, JOHN, Leeds, stockbrokers, Sept. 6, Oct. 3: solicitors, Messrs Williamson and Hill, Gray's inn, London, and Mr Cariss, Leeds.

HODGSON, JOHN, Liverpool, scrivener, Sept. 12, 30: solicitors, Messrs Gregory and Co., Bedford row, London, and Mr Frodsham, Liverpool.

KIRKHAM, JOHN, late of Great Warley, Essex, but now of Lupus street, Pimlico, butcher, Sept. 1, Oct. 3: solicitor, Mr Turner, Mount place, Whitechapel road.

VERY, WILLIAM, High street, Kingsland, licensed victualer, Sept. 4, Oct. 7: solicitors, Messrs Kingdon and Co., Clifford's inn.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

RIDDELL, ANDREW, Glasgow, temperance hotel keeper, Sept. 1 and 22.

SANDISON, ALEXANDER, late of Knowhead, Aberdeenshire, farmer, August 29 and Sept. 19.

STEEL, JOHN, Edinburgh, bookbinder, Sept. 2 and 25.

BRITISH FUNDS.

	Wed.	*Thur.*	*Fri.*	*Sat.*	*Mon.*	*Tues.*
3 per cent. Consols	99	99	99¼	99	99	99
Ditto for Account..	99	99⅛	99¼	99⅛	99⅛	98⅞
3 per cents Reduced	99⅜	99⅜	99⅜	99⅜	99⅜	99⅜
New 3½ per cent....	102⅜	102⅜	102⅜	102⅛	102⅛	102⅛
Long Annuities ...	11⅛	11⅛	—	—	11⅛	11⅛
Bank Stock.....	211	211½	211⅜	211	211¾	211
India Stock.....	272	271½	272½	272	—	272
Exchequer Bills...	51pm	51pm	51pm	52pm	50pm	49pm
India Bonds	—	—	—	—	—	—

FOREIGN FUNDS.

Austrian	116	Mexican	35
Belgian	100	Peruvian	39
Brazilian	89	Portuguese 5 per cents	61
Buenos Ayres	49	Ditto converted	65¼
Columbian	17⅞	Russian	118
Danish	90	Spanish Active	20
Dutch 2½ per cents	63	Ditto Passive	7
Ditto 4 per cents	100⅞	Ditto Deferred	16

RAILWAY SHARES.

Birmingham & Gloucester	133	London & CroydonTrunk	25½
Blackwall	10⅜	London and Greenwich	10⅜
Bristol and Exeter	93	Ditto New	—
Eastern Counties	19⅜	Manchester and Leeds	201
Edinburgh and Glasgow	90	Midland Counties	174
Grand Junction	—	Ditto New Shares	26¾
Great North of England ..	220	Manchester and Birming.	62
Great Western	217	Midland and Derby	138
Ditto Half	118	Ditto New	—
Ditto Fifths	46⅛	South Eastern and Dover	46
London and Birmingham	226	South Western	80
London & Birm. ¼ Shares	28	Ditto New	—
London and Brighton	76⅝	York and North Midland	109½

MARKETS.

MARK LANE, MONDAY, August 25.

The weather since Friday has been more settled than for some time past. Our supply of English wheat to this day's market was only moderate, but the favourable change in the weather caused the trade to open very dull, and, although factors showed some disposition to accept lower terms than was obtained last week, only a small portion of the supply was sold. A sample or two of new wheat appeared, which was generally of coarse, light quality. Free foreign and bonded were held at nominally last week's currency. Barley, beans, and peas the same as last week. Fine oats meet a fair demand, and are quite as dear; but foreign that are pressed for sale, and inferior qualities, barely maintain last week's rates.

	s.	*s.*		*s.*	*s.*
Wheat, Red	56	to 58	Malt, Ordinary ..	50	to 60
Fine	58	.. 60	Pale	60	.. 64
White	60	.. 66	Rye	30	.. 36
Fine	62	.. 64	Peas, Hog	34	.. 35
Flour, per sack	51	.. 53	Maple	35	.. 40
Barley	28	.. 30	Boilers	35	.. 40
Malting	30	.. 32	Beans, Ticks.....	32	.. 40
	s.	*s.*	DUTY ON FOREIGN CORN.		
Beans, Pigeon	33	to 36	Wheat	10*s.*	0*d.*
Harrow	33	.. 37	Barley	9	0
Oats, Feed	23	.. 24	Oats	6	0
Fine	24	.. 26	Rye	9	6
Poland	22	.. 25	Beans	2	6
Potato	24	.. 28	Peas	3	6

WEEKLY AVERAGE FOR AUG 22.			AGGREGATE AVERAGE OF THE SIX WEEKS.		
Wheat	57*s.*	0*d.*	Wheat	54*s.*	8*d.*
Barley	29	4	Barley	29	4
Oats	22	2	Oats	22	5
Rye	34	4	Rye	32	6
Beans	41	2	Beans	40	4
Peas	39	7	Peas.....	39	7

SEEDS.

There was not much doing in seeds. Canaryseed, of which the yield is expected to be rather short, was held for quite as much money as on Monday last. In coriander, carraway, &c., there was little passing. Rapeseed found buyers at £25 to £26 per last.

PROVISIONS, LONDON, Aug. 25.

The demand for Irish butter still continues dull, and the transactions during the past week were on a very limited scale, and prices the turn lower. The dull state of the Irish market may in some degree be accounted for by the recent large arrivals of foreign, which have met a free sale at lower prices, say from 78s. to 86s., according to quality. The slight improvement in the demand for bacon noticed in our last has been followed up, and we have since had a good sale for all descriptions, and in some instances a trifling advance in prices obtained. In lard a fair business doing, at rather better prices. In hams no particular change.

HOPS, BOROUGH, Monday, Aug. 25.

The market for hops has been steady, and the rise of last week seems to be maintained; although in some respects the accounts from the plantations are better. The duty is called £170,000 to £175,000.

BUTCHER'S MEAT, Smithfield, Monday, Aug. 25.

Although the beef trade was by no means active, the primest Scots sold steadily, at prices quite equal to those paid last week, the middling and inferior breeds moving off slowly at barely late rates. The numbers of sheep were small for the time of year; yet they were fully adequate to meet the wants of the buyers. For the primest old Downs, which were scarce, the demand was steady, at full prices; but all other kinds were heavy, and the turn lower. The supply of lambs was somewhat on the increase, owing to which the lamb trade ruled dull at barely the late depression in the quotations. Calves were in moderate supply and heavy demand, at last week's prices. Prime small pigs sold freely, otherwise the pork trade was dull. Since this day se'nnight, the imports of live stock from abroad for our market have consisted of 43 oxen and cows, together with 100 sheep, 20 lambs, and 6 calves, per the Neptune and John Bull, from Hamburgh; as also 113 beasts, 60 sheep, 20 lambs, and 14 calves, per the Batavier, Ocean, and William Joliffe. The Batavier having encountered a terrific storm on her passage, 26 of the oxen on board of her were smothered, the remainder being so much injured that they were killed on being landed.

Price per stone of 8lbs. (sinking the offal).

Beef.....	2s.	8d. to 4s.	2d.	Veal.....	3s.	6d. to 4s.	8d.
Mutton.....	3	4 .. 5	0	Pork.....	3	0 .. 4	4

Lamb, 4s. 8d. to 5s. 8d.

Head of Cattle at Smithfield.

	Beasts.	Sheep.	Calves.	Pigs.
Friday	816	17,800	365	311
Monday	3,178	25,150	211	300

Newgate and Leadenhall Markets, Monday, Aug. 25.

Per 8lbs. by the carcase.

Inferior Beef	2s.	6d. to 2s.	8d.	Inf. Mutton	3s.	4d. to 3s.	10d.
Middling do	2	10 .. 3	0	Mid. ditto	4	0 .. 4	4
Prime large	3	2 .. 3	4	Prime ditto	4	6 .. 4	8
Prime small	3	6 .. 3	8	Veal	3	0 .. 4	2
Large Pork	2	8 .. 3	10	Small Pork	4	0 .. 4	4

Lamb, 4s. 8d. to 5s. 8d.

WOOL.

The imports of wool into London during the past week were very small, being only 316 bales from Germany, and 485 from Algoa Bay, Cape of Good Hope. The market for wool has been steady. In the country markets there has been no variation.

COTTON.

Liverpool, Aug. 23.—The sales amount to about 3,500 bales, including about 500 on speculation. The market has been remarkably dull; no change, however to note in price.

HAY, Smithfield, Aug. 23.—At per load of 36 trusses.

Coarse Meadow ..	78s. to 98s.	New Clover Hay ..	92s. to 126s
New ditto.....	— .. —	Old ditto	— .. —
Useful Old ditto ..	100 .. 108	Oat Straw	36 .. 38
Fine Upland ditto	110 .. 116	Wheat Straw	38 .. 40

COAL EXCHANGE, Aug. 9.

Stewart's, 18s. 6d.; Hetton's, 18s. 9d.; Braddyll's Hettons, 18s. 6d. Ships arrived this week, 51.

GROCERIES, Tuesday, August 26.

TEA.—The deliveries last week amounted to 487,000lbs.

COFFEE.—There was less doing in the British plantation market. The trade bought 400 hhds and tierces, including 100 hhds Barbadoes, which were sold by public auction. Good to fine yellow fetched 52s. to 56s., low to middling 49s. to 51s. 6d. per cwt. Refined goods were lower; standard lumps selling at 67s., and brown grocery at 65s. 6d. to 66s. per cwt.

COFFEE.—600 bags, in auction, sold at 47s. to 48s. per cwt., for good ordinary native. Some small parcels of British plantation, at public sale, fetched lower rates.

BIRTHS.

July 20, at Bratton, Wilts, the wife of Mr G. Fishbourne, Baptist minister, of a son.

August 14, of a son, Mary, the wife of Henry Worsley Benison, Esq., the Grove, Clevedon, Somersetshire.

August 22, at Gosport, the wife of Mr Thomas Fulljames, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

June 19, at Calcutta, Mr Joseph Mullens, B.A., of the London Missionary Society, to Hannah Catherine, eldest daughter of Mr A. F. Lacroix, of the same Society.

August 20, at the Countess of Huntingdon's Congregational chapel, Maidstone, Kent, by Mr R. Pingree, Mr Edward Fordham, to Miss Francis Walmsley, both of Maidstone.

Aug. 13, at the Wesleyan Chapel, Hawley square, Margate, by Mr James Brownell, Mr W. Exton, Wesleyan Minister, of Canterbury, to Ann, second daughter of George Gaskell, Esq., of 3, St James's square, Margate.

Aug. 19, at Enfield church, Middlesex, by Mr Henry Kemp Richardson, M.A., rector of Leire, Leicestershire, Edward, the youngest son of Mr Sheriff Hunter, to Sarah Ann, only daughter of Benjamin Nicholas Williams, Esq., of Enfield, and granddaughter of the late John Strange, Esq., formerly of the same place.

Aug. 19, at the Independent Chapel, Henham, Norfolk, by Mr Robert Hamilton, Mr Jos De Carle Smith, Norwich, to Miss Elizabeth Clowes, daughter of Francis Clowes, Esq., Snettisham.

Aug. 19, at Bedford-street chapel, Stroud, by Mr W. Wheeler, William T. Edwards, Esq., M.B., of Cardiff, to Mary Elizabeth, only daughter of John Paine, Esq., of Corbett house, Stroud.

Aug. 20, at Loughton chapel, by Mr S. Brawn, Peter Bunnell, Esq., of St Martin's-le-Grand, to Hannah, daughter of Mr W. Weare, minister, Epping.

Aug. 26, at Craven chapel, London, by Dr Leifchild, Mr James Adeney, of Sackville street, to Caroline, only daughter of Mr Edward Swaine, of Piccadilly.

DEATHS.

Aug. 13, at Kilsby, Northamptonshire, aged 35, Mrs W. Lines, eldest daughter of Arthur Jones, D.D., of Bangor, Carnarvonshire.

Aug. 19, Mary, the wife of Henry Worsley Benison, Esq., Clevedon, and daughter of Mr Smedmore, Swanage, Dorset.

Aug. 20, Lewisham road, Kent, Elizabeth Anne, daughter of the late W. Thomas Beby, Esq., of Calcutta, aged 17 years.

Aug. 22, at Reading, aged 38 years, Eliza, wife of Mr George James Johnson, bookseller, and daughter of the late Mr Rusher, of Reading.

The River Plate.—News from the River Plate about the middle of June last states that General Rosas had acceded to the demands of the English and French governments, and had consented to withdraw the Buenos Ayrean troop from the territory of Monte Video.

Fraud and Forgery.—Two parties have been apprehended in the metropolis during the week, and committed for trial, for applying for railway shares, in the names of other parties, and signing such names to the parliamentary deeds to enable them to obtain the scrip. It is suspected that this kind of fraud has been extensively practised in connexion with many of the recent railway schemes.

Advertisements.

TO GROCERS, PROVISION DEALERS, &c.—Wanted, by a young man of good character and education, a situation as assistant in a business of this kind. He has had some experience in a very respectable shop. References will be given and required. Address, A. B., *Nonconformist* office, London.

VESTIGES OF THE NATURAL HISTORY OF CREATION.

On Saturday, the 30th instant,

THE "ATLAS" NEWSPAPER will be accompanied by a GRATUITOUS SUPPLEMENT of TWELVE COLUMNS; containing an Expository Outline of the above Popular Work, with a comprehensive and critical Analysis of the Arguments by which the extraordinary Hypotheses of the Author are supported and impugned, with their bearing upon the religious and moral interests of the community.

Orders received by all booksellers and newsmen, and advertisements intended for the publication must be forwarded on or before Wednesday, the 27th, to insure insertion.

Office, 6, Southampton street, Strand, August 21, 1845.

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This day in published, price Twopence. No. IX, of the Monthly Series.

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4. The Englishman's Hebrew Concordance.
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8. Rupp's Religious Denominations of America.
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"I. *Origin of Creation.* 1. The great first cause of Creation was God. This chapter," &c. The observations in the Reflections are, however, so made as to render them in complete order for reading without the use of the Analytical Heading, which heading may be of separate utility in expounding a chapter.

In reading the chapter several things are to be noticed:—

2. Passages in Brackets show that they may be omitted in Family Reading, being mostly chronological, or eastern metaphors, or statements of iniquity, liable to abuse by the ignorant and thoughtless.

3. Words, followed by words in brackets, show that the latter are more suitable substitutes, being not so coarse as those of the early translation; or, in some instances, those passages give a rendering much more clear for the plain reader, without generally introducing any learned criticisms.

4. Where a division of a chapter is marked at the left hand, among the verses, as in Gen. ii. 7, where (chap. ii.) occurs, and in Gen. iv. 25, where (chap. v.) occurs, it is to signify that learned critics have thought those divisions more desirable than those in our common Bibles; the reader will, however, observe, that they are so marked as not to interfere with the usual numbering of our common chapters or verses, both remaining as before familiar to the eye. In Gen. ii. the first six verses are thought to belong to chap. i. In Gen. iv. the two last verses are thought to belong to chap. v., and so for other like divisions. These divisions may frequently be useful for the better understanding of the connexion of the subject.

5. Some passages are printed in a poetical form, like blank verse, as Gen. iv. 23, "Ye wives of Lamech," &c., showing that they are so in the original; and in reading the Psalms, Proverbs, and Prophets, which, as well as Job and Solomon's Song, are poetical books, the plain reader will often see the force and beauty of the passage, by observing the parallels, and particularly the antithesis, or contrast, which they are intended to exhibit. As, for example, Prov. xii. 1, 2—

1. "Whoso loveth instruction, loveth knowledge;
   But he that hateth reproof is brutish.
2. A good man obtaineth favour of the Lord;
   But a man of wicked devices will he condemn."

6. The Paragraphs are often differently marked from those of our common Bibles. These ought to connect, instead of which they often confound or divide subjects. The aim of the paragraphs in this Bible has been to correct these defects.

7. The passages interspersed in brackets, when in Roman characters, with C. O. prefixed, point out to the reader the Chronological Order of reading. As, for instance, the history in the book of Job is considered to have occurred before many of the events which are recorded in the book of Genesis; it is therefore marked for reading, Gen. ch. xi. Many of the Psalms are connected in order with events recorded in the Historical Books, though they are collected together as one volume of sacred poetry; and many of the prophetical predictions were given at periods, the history of which is connected without them in Kings, Chronicles, &c., while the predictions are classed together. The Prophets, also, are not given exactly in the order in which they prophesied, but are arranged according to their size and importance, the shorter prophecies being placed last in the prophetic volume. It may not be advisable to disturb the usual order in Family reading; but for closet use the Chronological order will be found valuable, as it corrects these anomalies in our common Bibles.

8. The passages marked at the foot of each chapter, in italics, are Scriptural Expositions of the subject of that chapter, and may be used by the private reader as he would use marginal references.

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Committee Rooms, Catherine Wheel Inn, Borough, August 27th, 1845.

METROPOLITAN COMPLETE SUFFRAGE ASSOCIATION.

A PUBLIC MEETING of the above Association will be held on MONDAY EVENING NEXT, the 1st September, at the Literary Institution, Borough road, Southwark. The Chair to be taken at Seven o'clock precisely. Electors of Southwark, attend!

THE IRISH CHURCH: its Social and Religious Influence on the People of Ireland.—A LECTURE on this subject will be delivered in Dr COX'S CHAPEL, HACKNEY, on THURSDAY EVENING NEXT, AUGUST 28th, at Seven o'clock, by the Rev. A. GORDON, M.A., of Ballibay, Ireland; and also on FRIDAY EVENING, the 29th inst, at JAMAICA-ROW CHAPEL, BERMONDSEY (Rev. G. Rose's).

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Mr G. Simmons, Upper Thames street
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